

# Search for the Higgs boson in the $WW$ decay channel with the ATLAS Detector

Ralf Bernhard

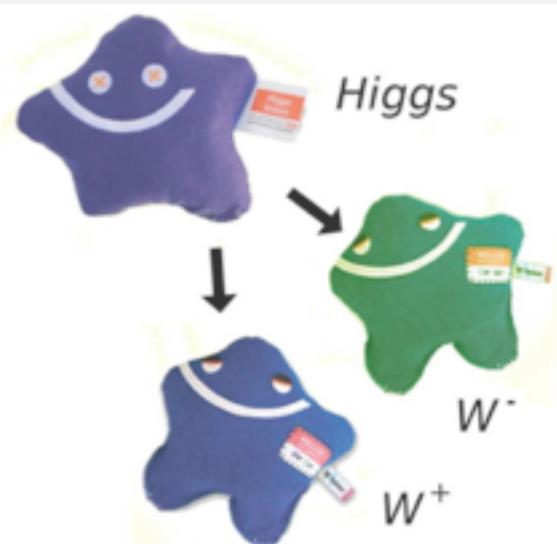
University of Freiburg

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Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg



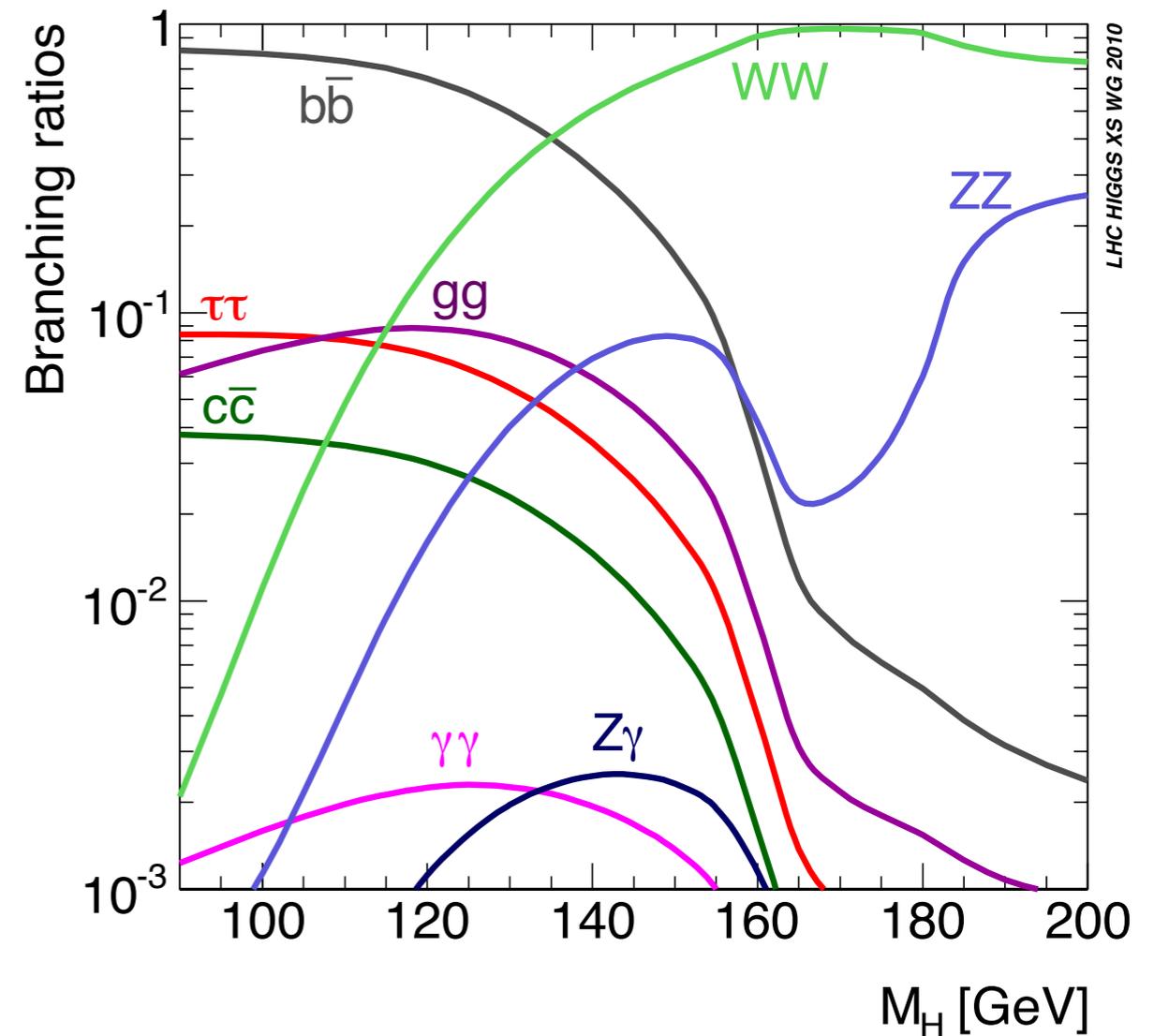
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- Introduction
- $H \rightarrow WW^{(*)} \rightarrow l\nu l\nu$
- $H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow l\nu q\bar{q}$
- Conclusions

# Introduction

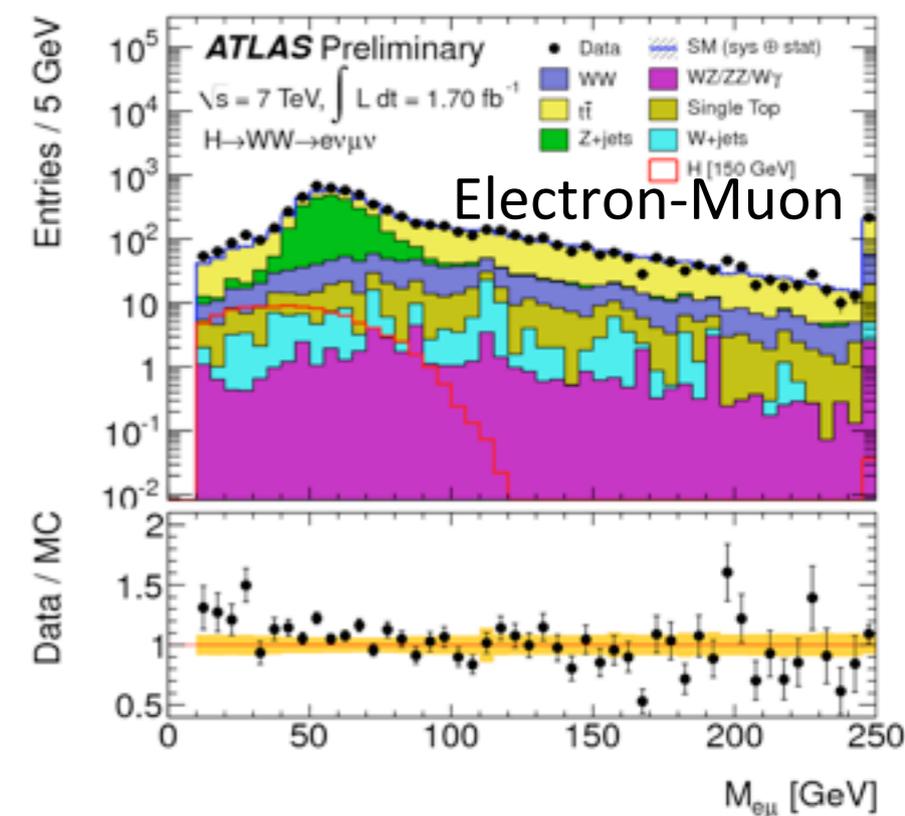
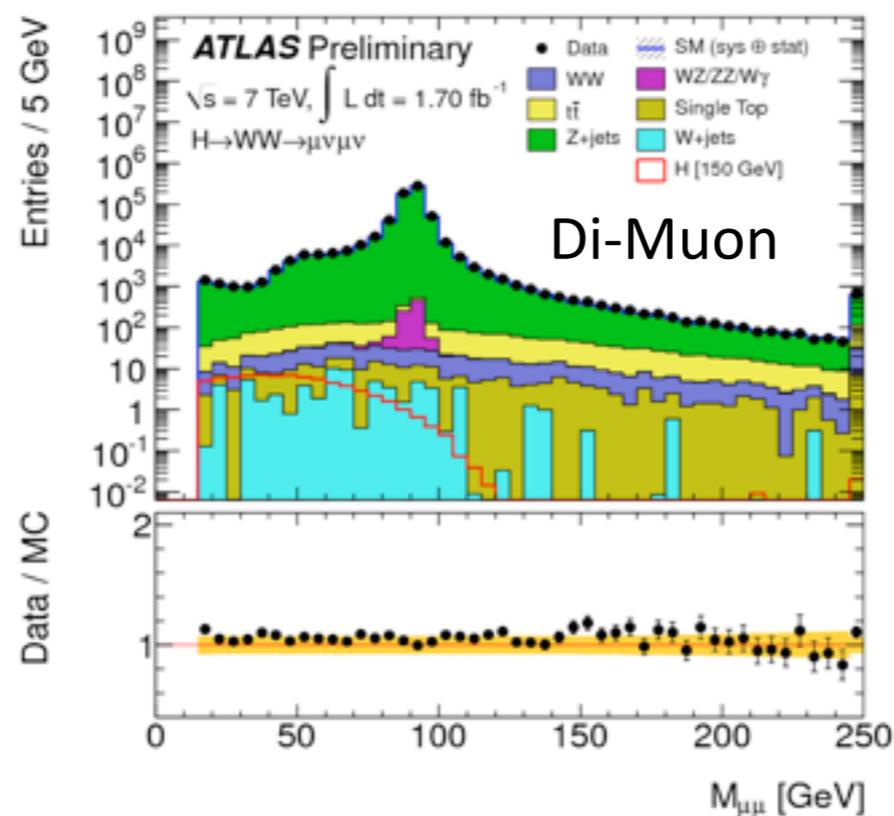
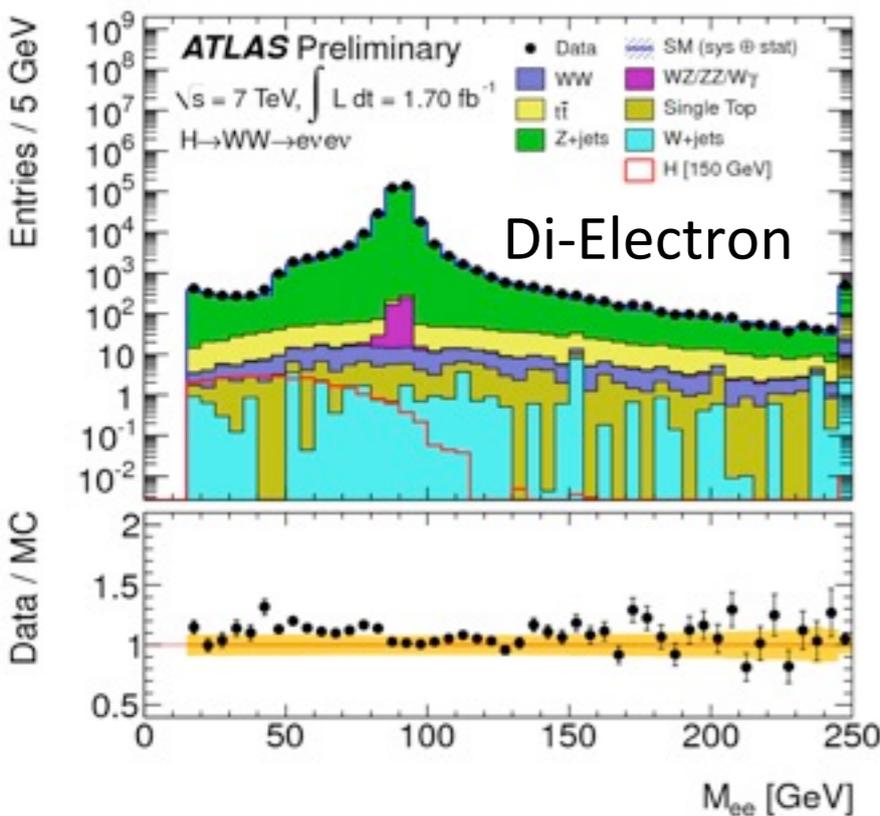
- The 40 year long search for finding or disproving the existence of the Higgs boson is nearing its end
  - ATLAS dataset enough to have sensitivity for a range of masses
- The  $H \rightarrow WW^{(*)} \rightarrow l\nu l\nu$  channel combines the large  $H \rightarrow WW$  branching ratio with a clean final state
  - Analysis performed for  $110 < M_H < 300$  GeV



# Lepton Selection



- Select events containing exactly two opposite sign leptons (e or  $\mu$ )
- Cut on di-lepton invariant mass to reduce Z+jet background
  - ee,  $\mu\mu$ :  $m_{ll} > 15$  GeV,  $|m_{ll} - m_Z| > 15$  GeV
  - e $\mu$ :  $m_{ll} > 10$  GeV



# Require large missing energy



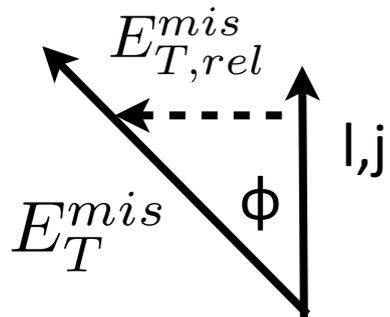
- Require missing energy to suppress QCD and  $Z/\gamma^* + \text{jets}$  backgrounds

- Use

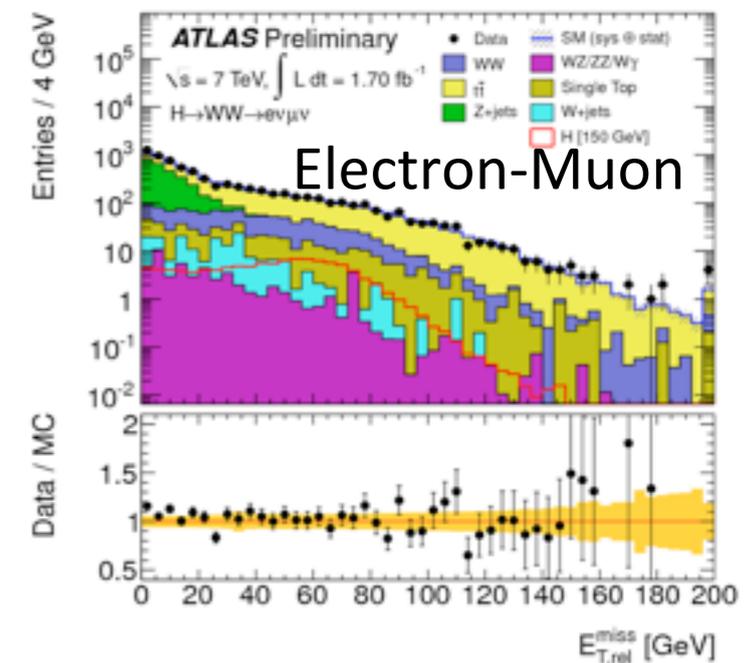
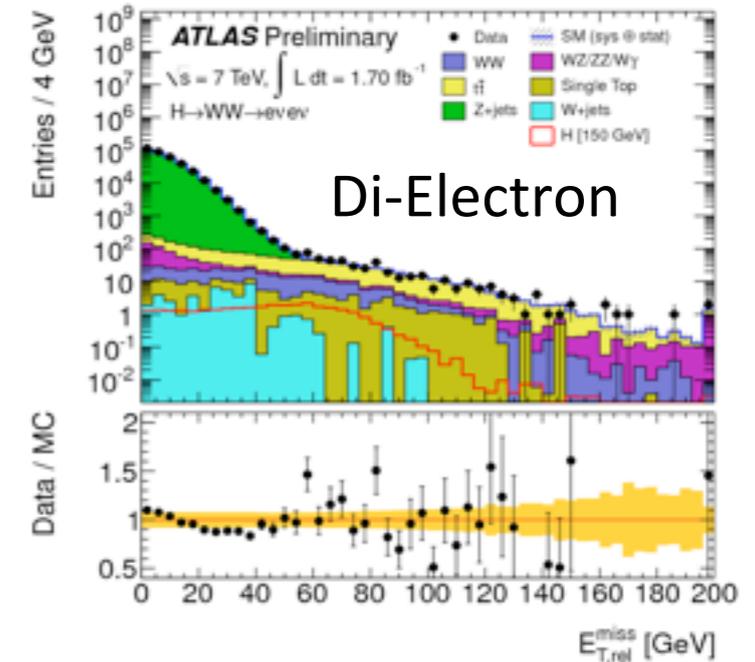
$$E_{T,\text{rel}}^{\text{miss}} = \begin{cases} E_T^{\text{miss}} & \text{if } \Delta\phi \geq \pi/2 \\ E_T^{\text{miss}} \cdot \sin \Delta\phi & \text{if } \Delta\phi < \pi/2 \end{cases}$$

$$\Delta\phi = \min(\Delta\phi(E_T^{\text{miss}}, l), \Delta\phi(E_T^{\text{miss}}, j))$$

- Same flavour:  $E_{T,\text{rel}}^{\text{miss}} > 40 \text{ GeV}$
- Opposite flavour:  $E_{T,\text{rel}}^{\text{miss}} > 25 \text{ GeV}$



Suppresses also 'fake' MET from mis-measurement

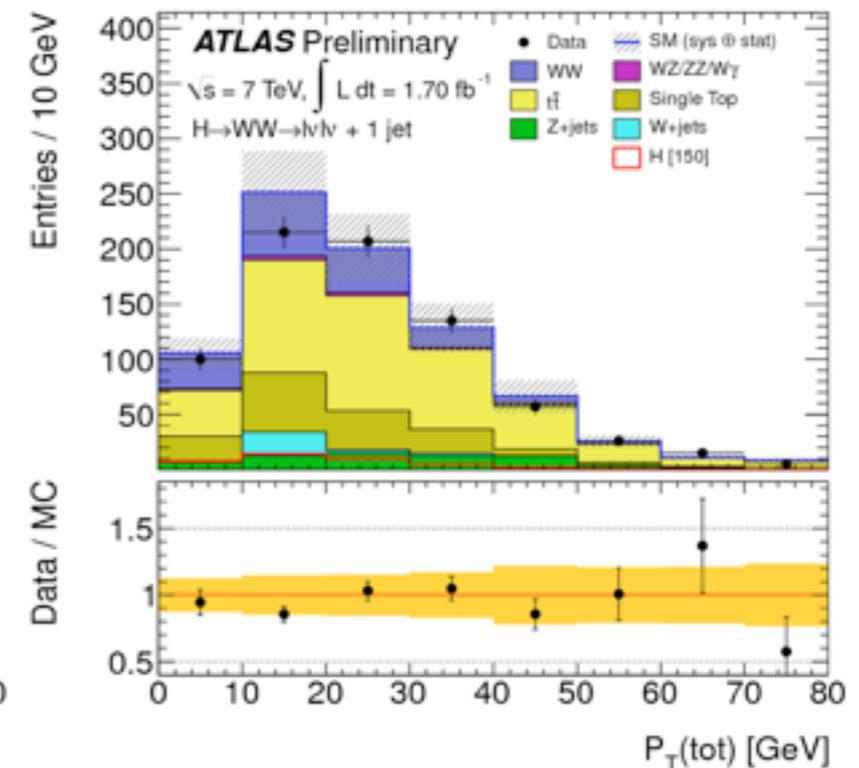
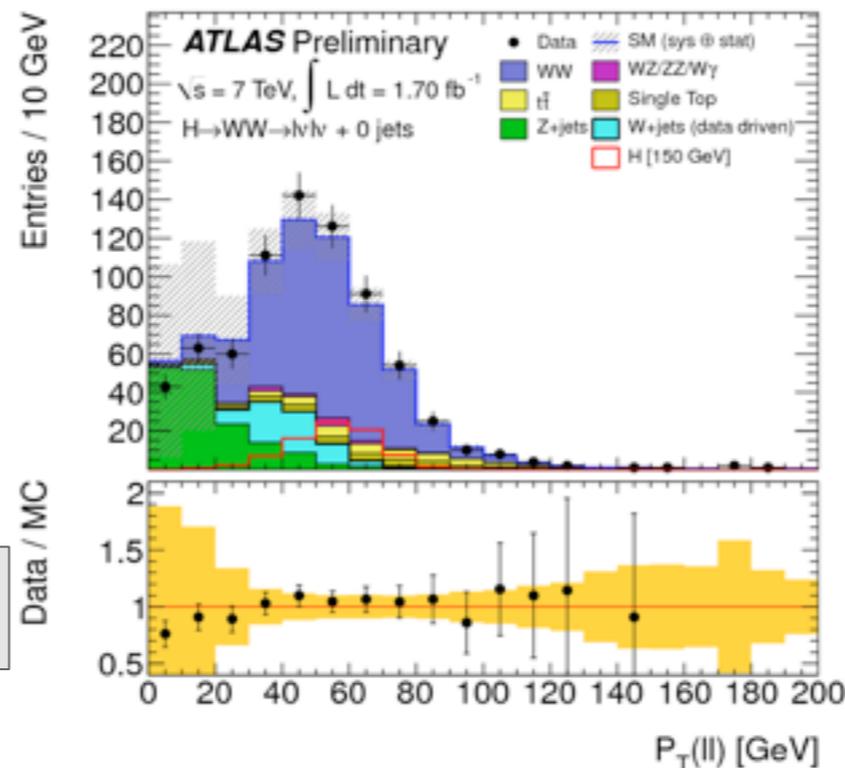
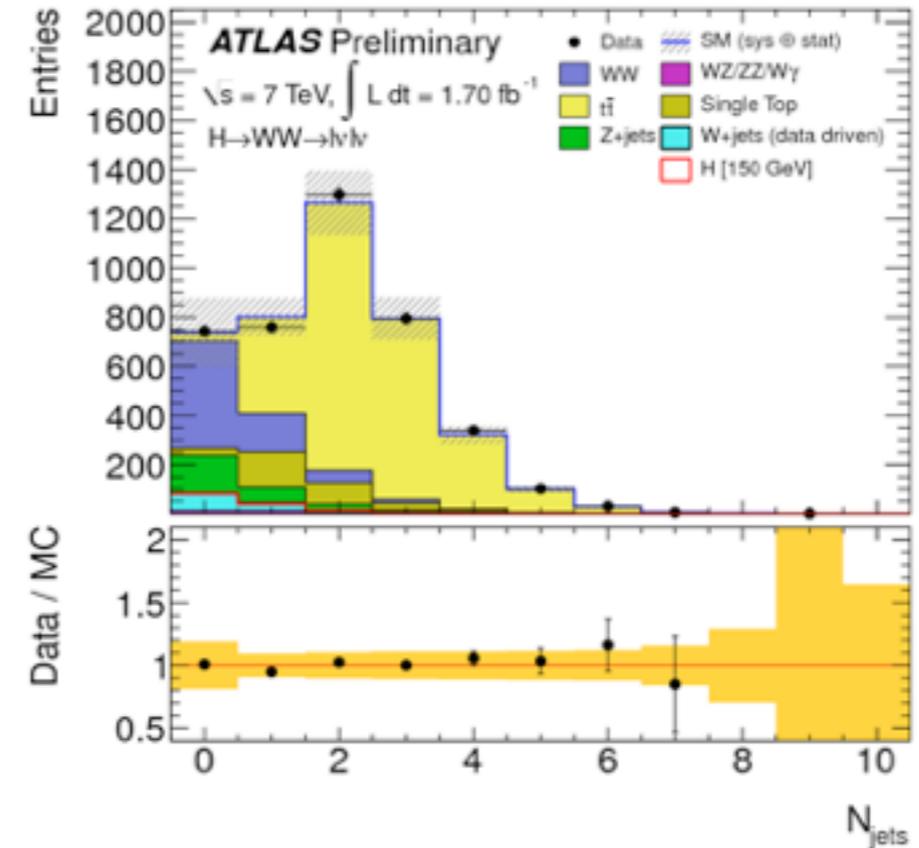


	WW	Z/ $\gamma^*$ + jets	$t\bar{t}$	$tW/tb/tqb$	WZ/ZZ/W $\gamma$	Total Bkg.	Observed
$m_{\ell\ell} > 15 \text{ GeV}$ ,							
$m_{e\mu} > 10 \text{ GeV}$	$1380 \pm 100$	$970000 \pm 70000$	$6200 \pm 600$	$630 \pm 70$	$1200 \pm 100$	$970000 \pm 70000$	997813
$ m_Z - m_{\ell\ell}  > 15 \text{ GeV}$	$1220 \pm 80$	$91000 \pm 7000$	$5500 \pm 600$	$560 \pm 60$	$92 \pm 9$	$98000 \pm 7000$	104253
$E_{T,\text{rel}}^{\text{miss}}$	$660 \pm 50$	$300 \pm 200$	$2700 \pm 300$	$310 \pm 40$	$28 \pm 4$	$4000 \pm 500$	4051

# Jet Multiplicity

- Further categorize events by jet multiplicity for jets with  $p_T > 25$  GeV,  $|\eta| < 4.5$ 
  - 0j**: Zero jets
  - 1j**: Exactly 1 jet, no b-tag
- Different signal sensitivity and background composition
- Cuts for 0j: Cuts:  $p_T^{ll} > 30$  GeV
- Cuts for 1j:
  - no tagged b-jet
  - $p_T^{tot} < 30$  GeV
  - $|m_{\tau\tau} - m_Z| < 25$  GeV

$$p_T^{tot} = p_T^{l1} + p_T^{l2} + p_T^j + p_T^{miss}$$



# Topological Selection



- Irreducible WW background: topological cuts to exploit Higgs mass and spin
- Values optimized in 3 Higgs mass ranges

## Dilepton Invariant Mass, $m_{ll}$

- $m_{ll} < 50$  GeV ( $m_H < 170$  GeV)
- $m_{ll} < 65$  GeV ( $170 \leq m_H < 220$  GeV)
- $50 < m_{ll} < 180$  GeV ( $m_H \geq 220$  GeV)

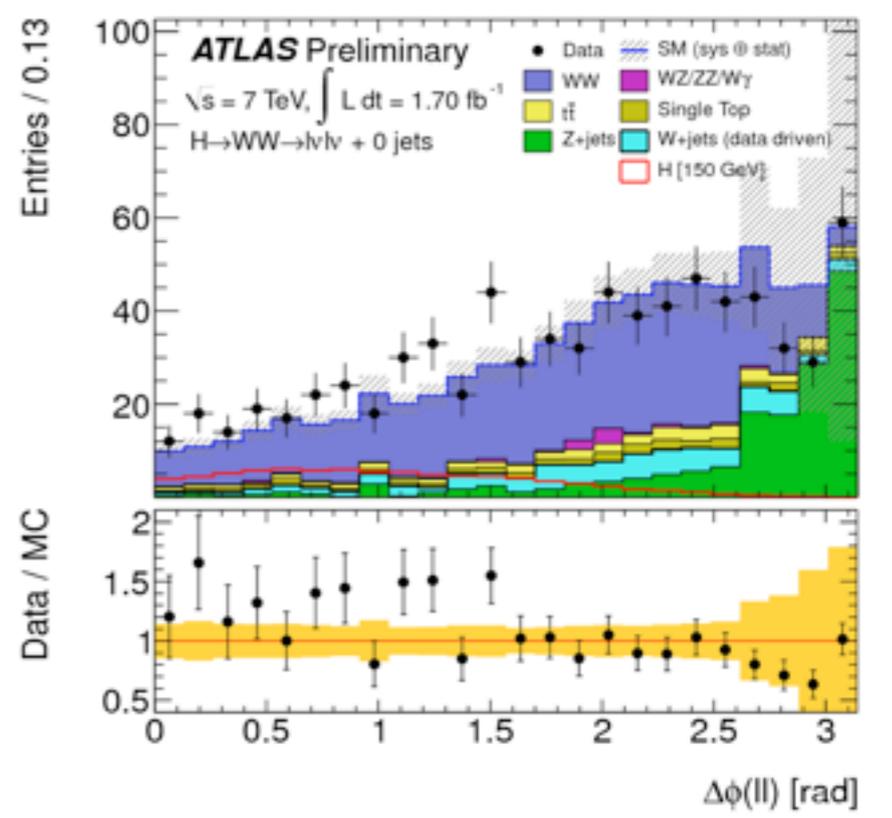
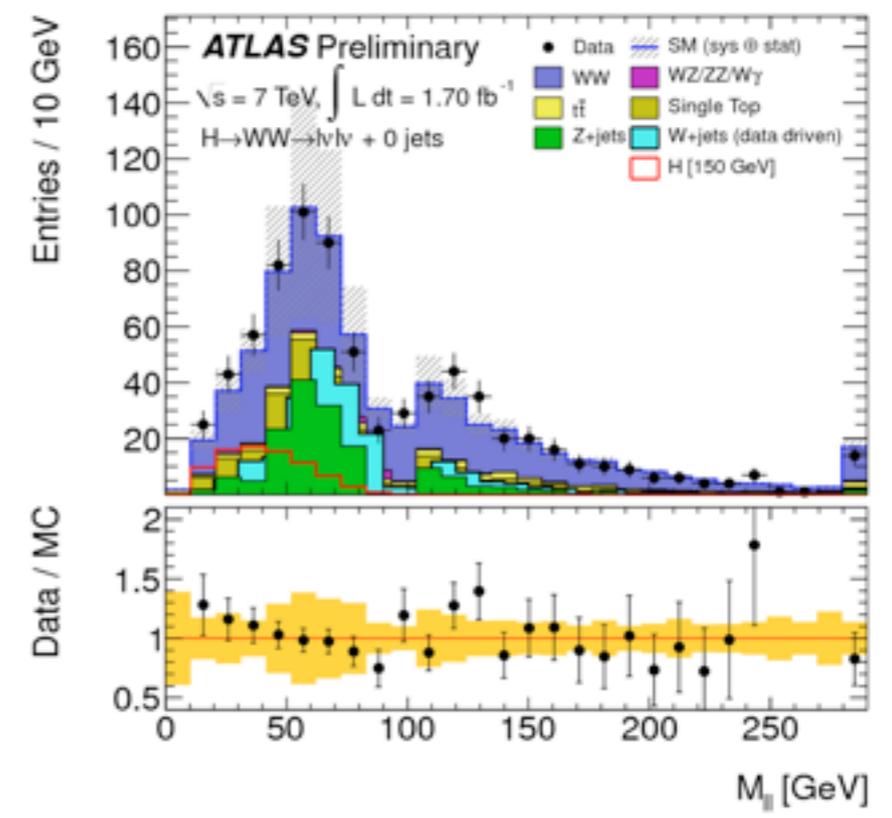
## Opening angle between leptons, $\Delta\Phi$

- $\Delta\Phi < 1.3$  ( $m_H < 170$  GeV)
- $\Delta\Phi < 1.8$  ( $170 \leq m_H < 220$  GeV)

## Sliding window cut on transverse mass

- $0.75 m_H < m_T < m_H$  ( $m_H < 220$  GeV)
- $0.6 m_H < m_T < m_H$  ( $m_H \geq 220$  GeV)

$$M_T = \sqrt{(E_T^{ll})^2 + (E_T^{\nu\nu})^2 - (\vec{p}_T^{ll} + \vec{p}_T^{miss})^2}$$



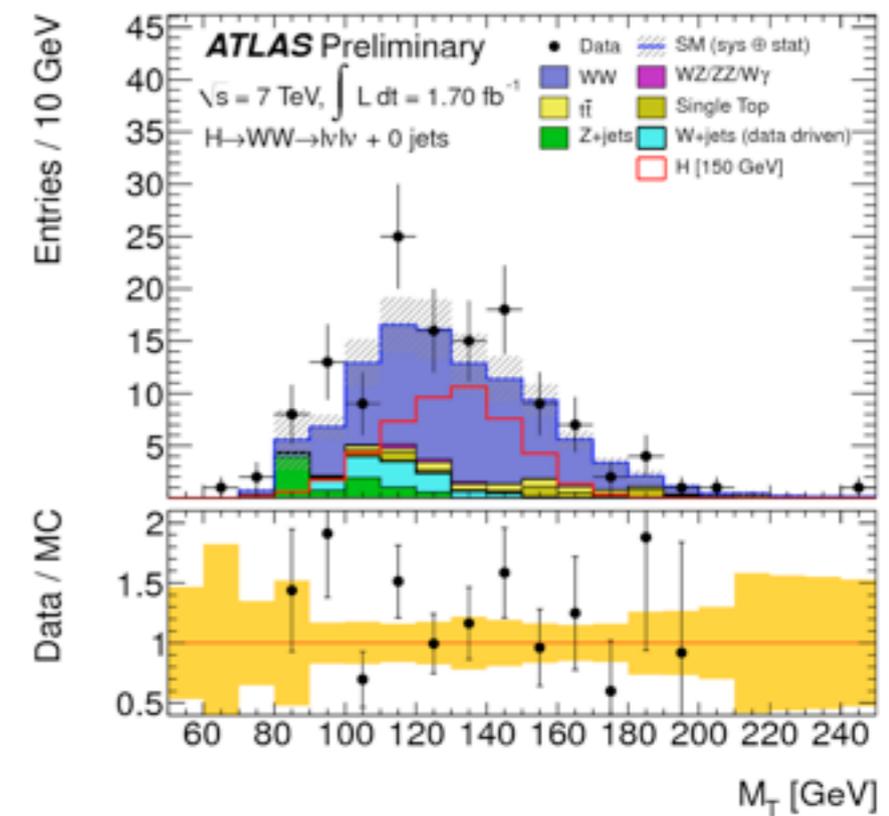
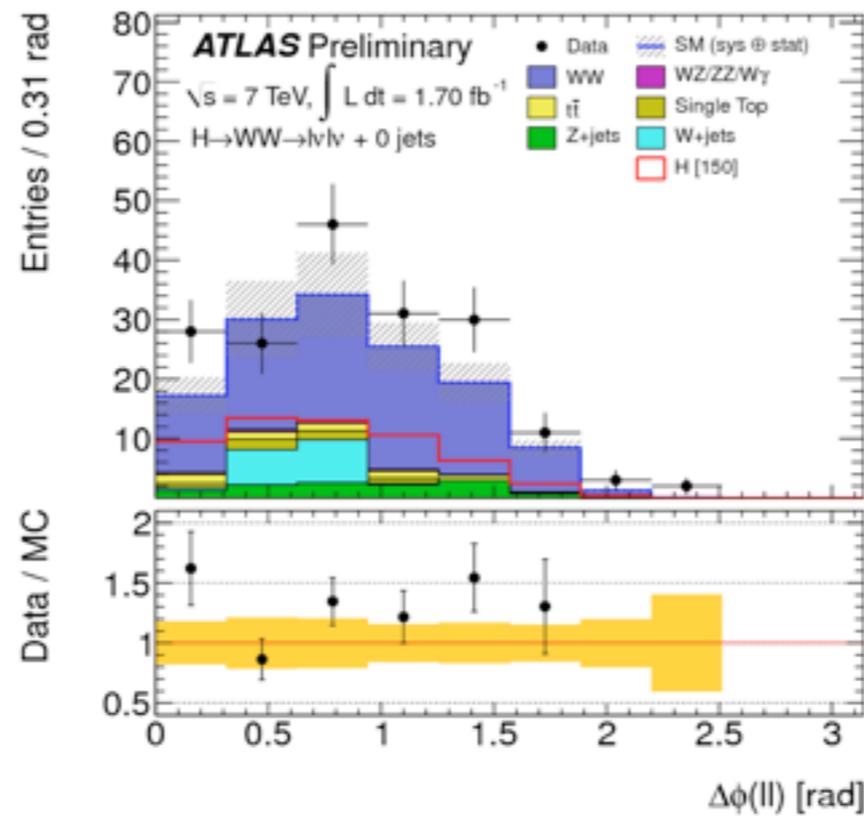
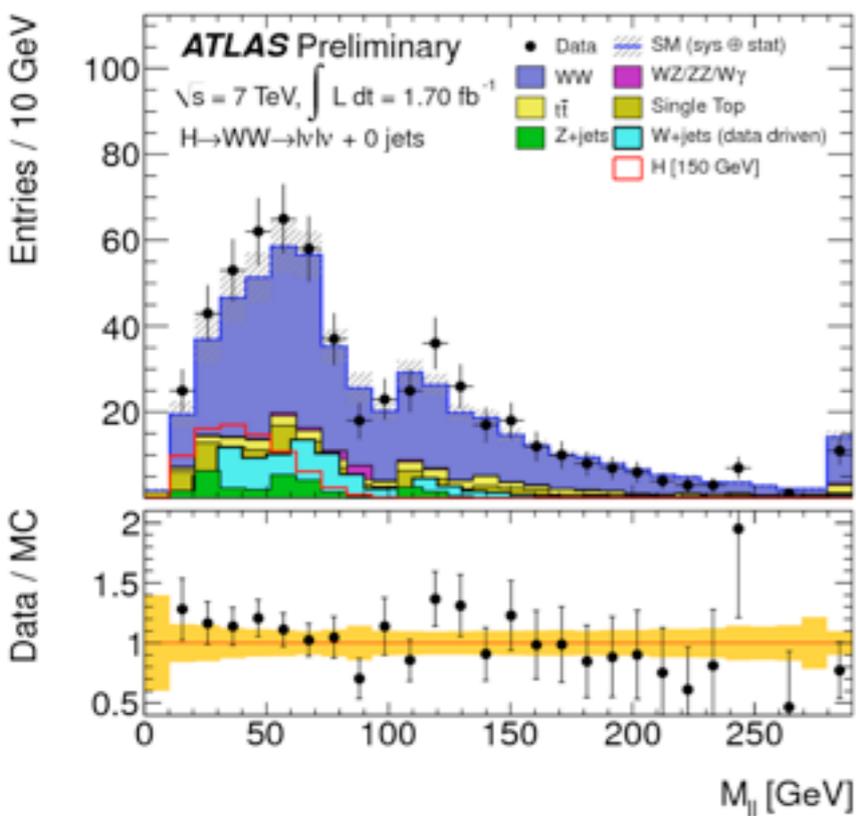
# $H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow l\nu l\nu + 0j$

$m_H = 150$  GeV Selection



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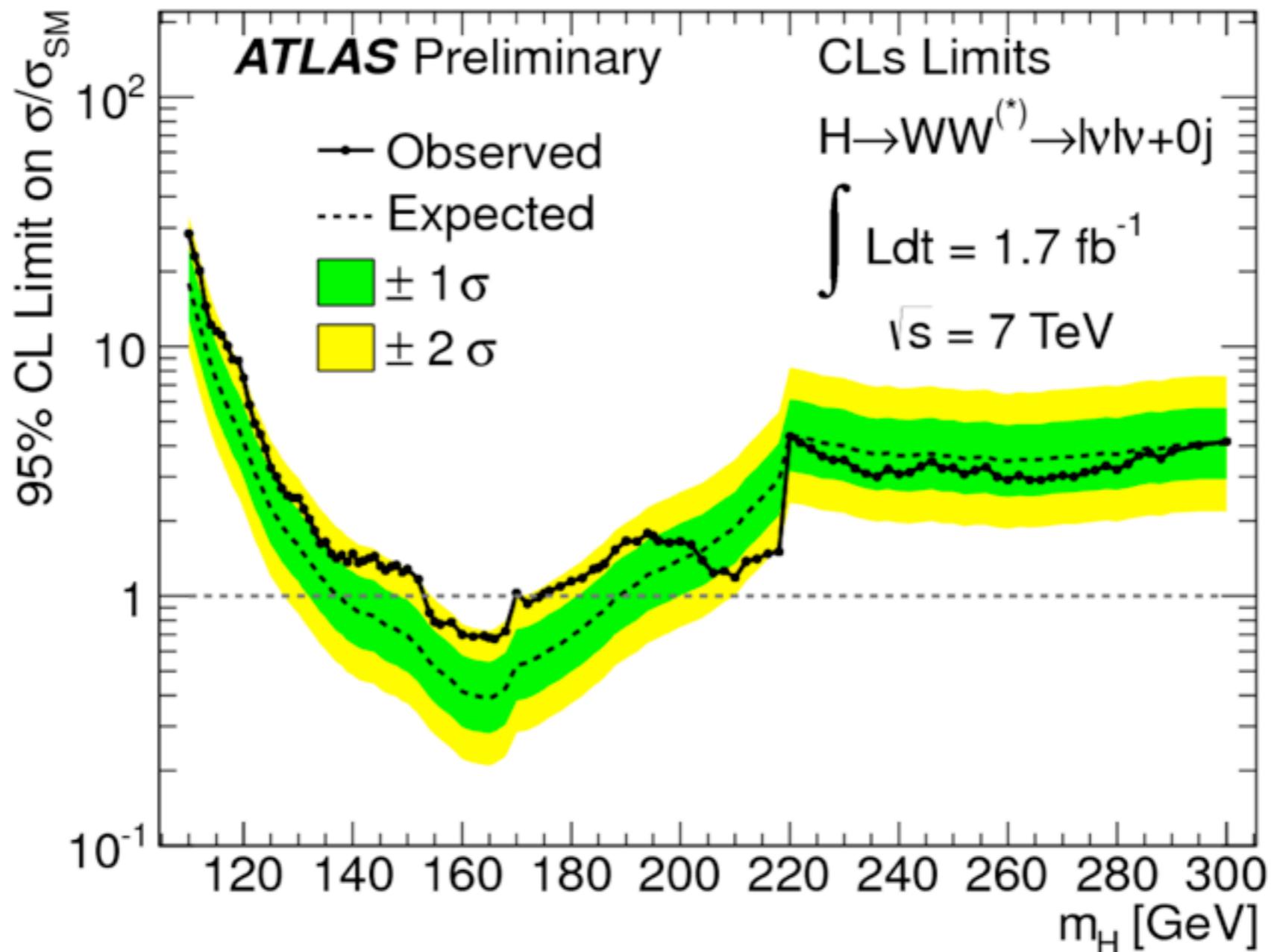
	Signal	WW	W + jets	Z/ $\gamma^*$ + jets	$t\bar{t}$	$tW/tb/tqb$	WZ/ZZ/W $\gamma$	Total Bkg.	Observed
Jet Veto	$82 \pm 17$	$430 \pm 40$	$70 \pm 40$	$160 \pm 150$	$37 \pm 13$	$28 \pm 7$	$11 \pm 3$	$740 \pm 160$	738
$ \mathbf{P}_T^{\ell\ell}  > 30$ GeV	$79 \pm 17$	$390 \pm 40$	$60 \pm 30$	$28 \pm 11$	$35 \pm 12$	$25 \pm 7$	$10 \pm 3$	$540 \pm 80$	574
$m_{\ell\ell} < 50$ GeV	$56 \pm 12$	$98 \pm 13$	$17 \pm 7$	$12 \pm 7$	$6 \pm 3$	$4.8 \pm 1.5$	$1.2 \pm 0.4$	$139 \pm 20$	175
$\Delta\phi_{\ell\ell} < 1.3$	$48 \pm 11$	$76 \pm 10$	$9 \pm 4$	$8 \pm 6$	$5 \pm 2$	$4.8 \pm 1.5$	$1.1 \pm 0.3$	$105 \pm 16$	131
$0.75 m_H < m_T < m_H$	$34 \pm 7$	$43 \pm 6$	$5 \pm 2$	$2 \pm 4$	$2.2 \pm 1.4$	$1.2 \pm 0.8$	$0.7 \pm 0.3$	$53 \pm 9$	70
$ee$	$5.2 \pm 1.2$	$6.2 \pm 0.9$	$0.9 \pm 0.4$	$0.8 \pm 1.4$	$0.3 \pm 0.3$	$0 \pm 0.3$	$0.07 \pm 0.05$	$8.2 \pm 1.7$	9
$e\mu$	$17 \pm 4$	$22 \pm 3$	$2.8 \pm 1.3$	$0 \pm 1.3$	$1.1 \pm 0.5$	$0.8 \pm 0.6$	$0.31 \pm 0.19$	$27 \pm 4$	32
$\mu\mu$	$11 \pm 2$	$14 \pm 2$	$1.0 \pm 0.6$	$1 \pm 3$	$0.8 \pm 1.1$	$0.4 \pm 0.4$	$0.31 \pm 0.09$	$18 \pm 5$	29



# $H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow l\nu l\nu + 0j$ Limits



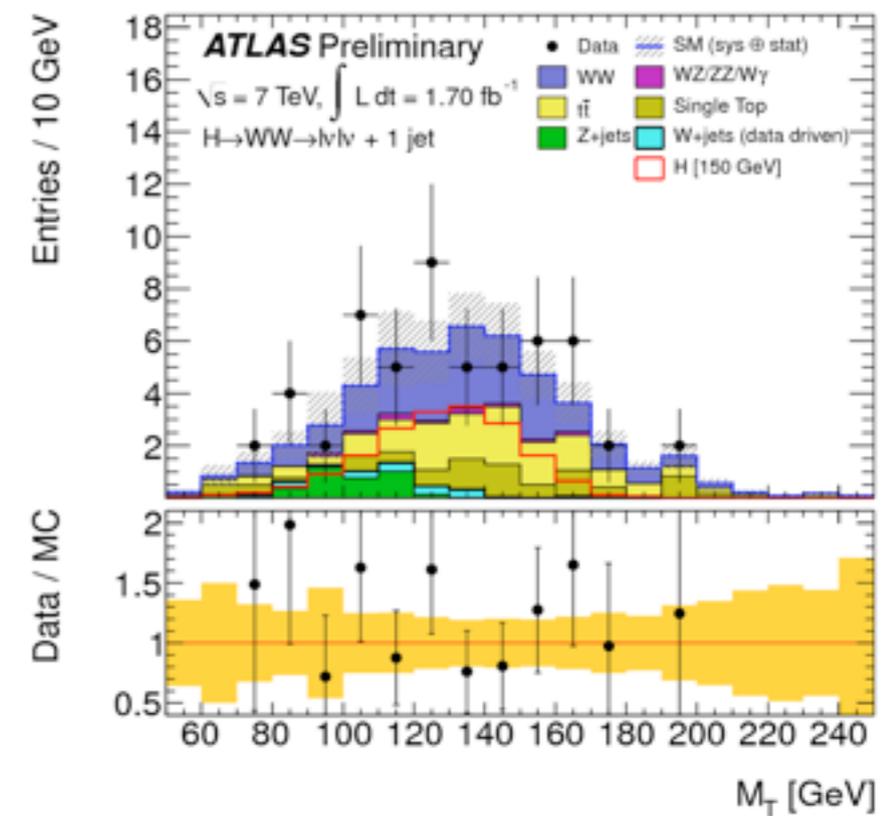
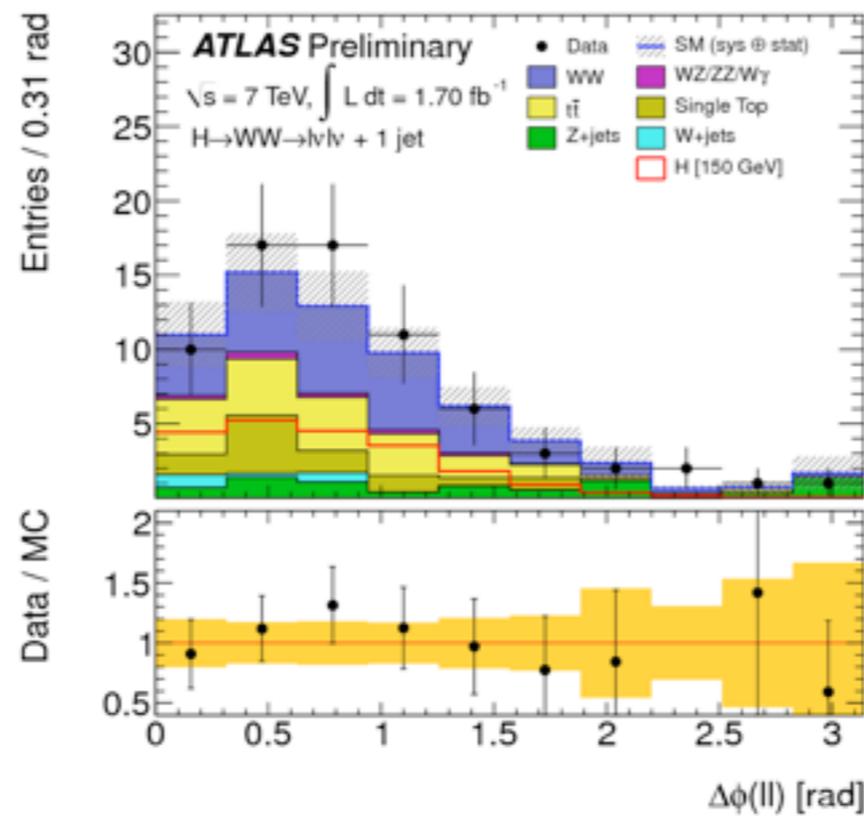
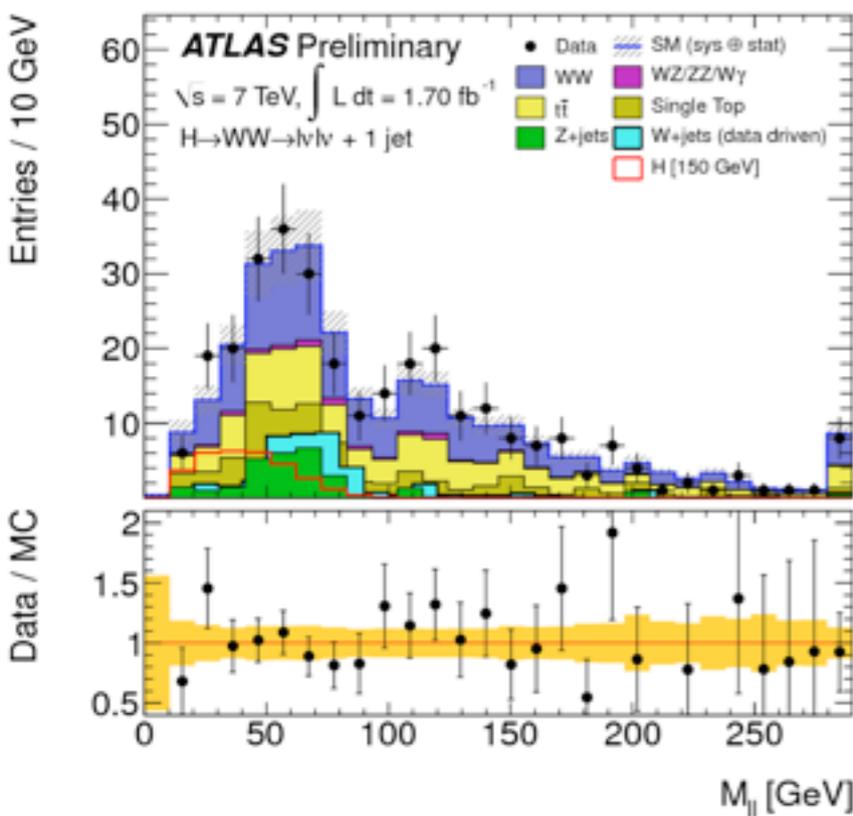
- Exclude a range of Higgs masses with the  $0j$  channel alone
- Kink due to cut change at  $m_H = 220$  GeV



# $H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow l\nu l\nu + 1j$

$m_H = 150 \text{ GeV}$  Selection

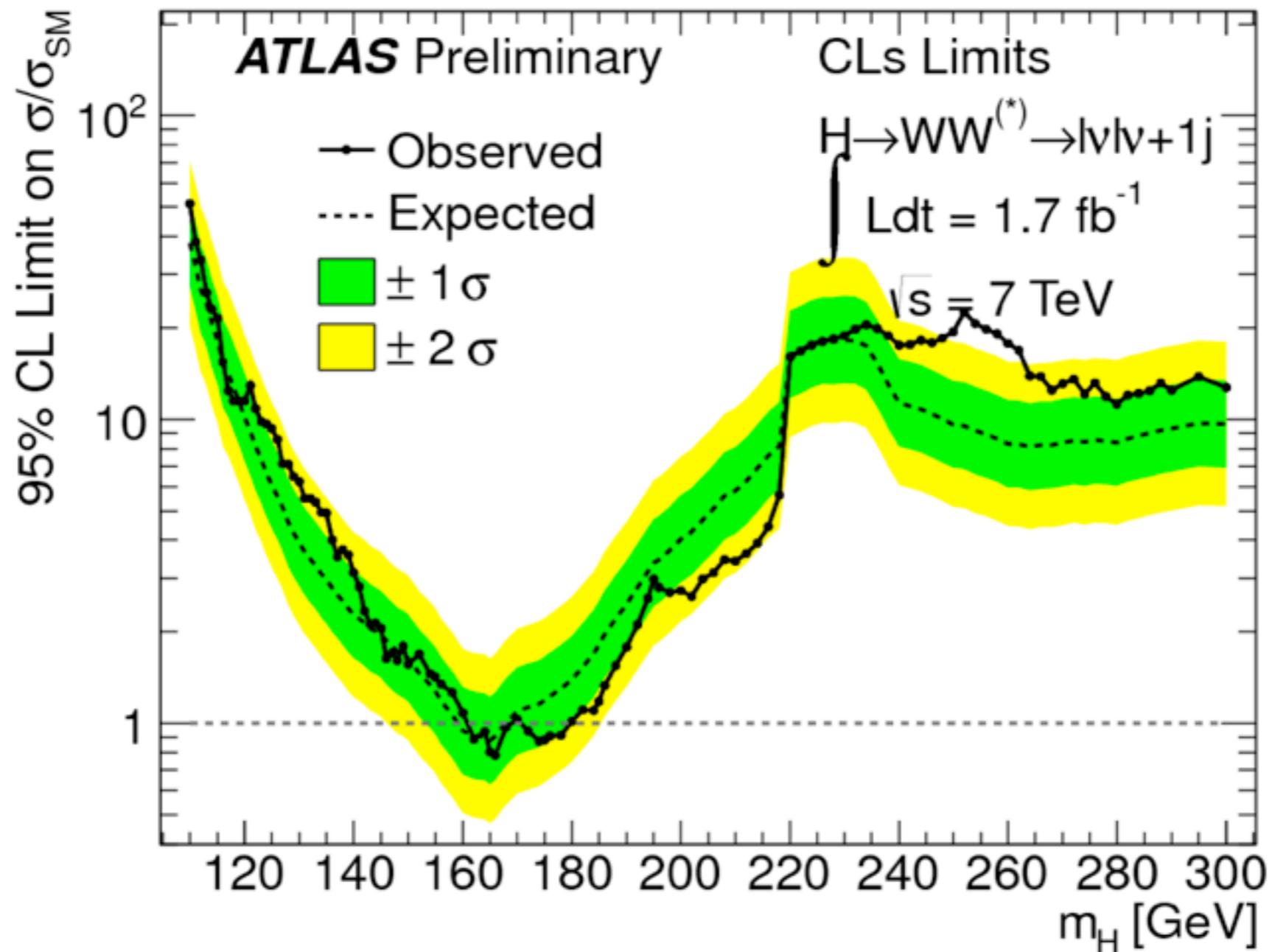
	Signal	WW	W + jets	Z/ $\gamma^*$ + jets	$t\bar{t}$	$tW/tb/tqb$	WZ/ZZ/W $\gamma$	Total Bkg.	Observed
1 jet	$41 \pm 7$	$158 \pm 16$	$31 \pm 19$	$60 \pm 60$	$390 \pm 100$	$140 \pm 20$	$10.7 \pm 1.4$	$800 \pm 120$	756
$b$ -jet veto	$40 \pm 7$	$154 \pm 16$	$29 \pm 18$	$60 \pm 50$	$140 \pm 40$	$54 \pm 9$	$10.6 \pm 1.4$	$450 \pm 70$	440
$P_T^{\text{tot}} < 30 \text{ GeV}$	$32 \pm 6$	$127 \pm 13$	$16 \pm 9$	$30 \pm 30$	$90 \pm 20$	$41 \pm 7$	$7.0 \pm 0.9$	$310 \pm 50$	312
Z $\rightarrow \tau\tau$ veto	$32 \pm 6$	$124 \pm 14$	$14 \pm 7$	$30 \pm 20$	$84 \pm 19$	$39 \pm 7$	$6.8 \pm 1.4$	$300 \pm 30$	301
$m_{\ell\ell} < 50 \text{ GeV}$	$22 \pm 5$	$27 \pm 5$	$2.1 \pm 1.0$	$8 \pm 6$	$17 \pm 6$	$9 \pm 2$	$1.5 \pm 0.4$	$64 \pm 10$	69
$\Delta\phi_{\ell\ell} < 1.3$	$19 \pm 4$	$21 \pm 4$	$1.8 \pm 0.9$	$4 \pm 5$	$14 \pm 5$	$8 \pm 2$	$1.2 \pm 0.3$	$50 \pm 9$	54
$0.75 m_H < m_T < m_H$	$12 \pm 3$	$10 \pm 2$	$0.8 \pm 0.4$	$1.1 \pm 1.8$	$6.9 \pm 1.9$	$3.4 \pm 1.4$	$0.6 \pm 0.3$	$23 \pm 4$	23
$ee$	$1.7 \pm 0.4$	$1.4 \pm 0.4$	$0.12 \pm 0.06$	$0.07 \pm 0.12$	$0.6 \pm 0.3$	$0.5 \pm 0.3$	$0.10 \pm 0.09$	$2.8 \pm 0.7$	5
$e\mu$	$6.3 \pm 1.5$	$5.7 \pm 1.3$	$0.5 \pm 0.3$	$0.6 \pm 1.0$	$3.7 \pm 1.3$	$2.0 \pm 1.0$	$0.39 \pm 0.20$	$13 \pm 3$	11
$\mu\mu$	$3.9 \pm 0.9$	$3.3 \pm 0.7$	$0.1 \pm 0.2$	$0.5 \pm 0.5$	$2.6 \pm 1.5$	$1.0 \pm 0.9$	$0.08 \pm 0.06$	$8 \pm 2$	7



# $H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow l\nu l\nu + 1j$ Limits



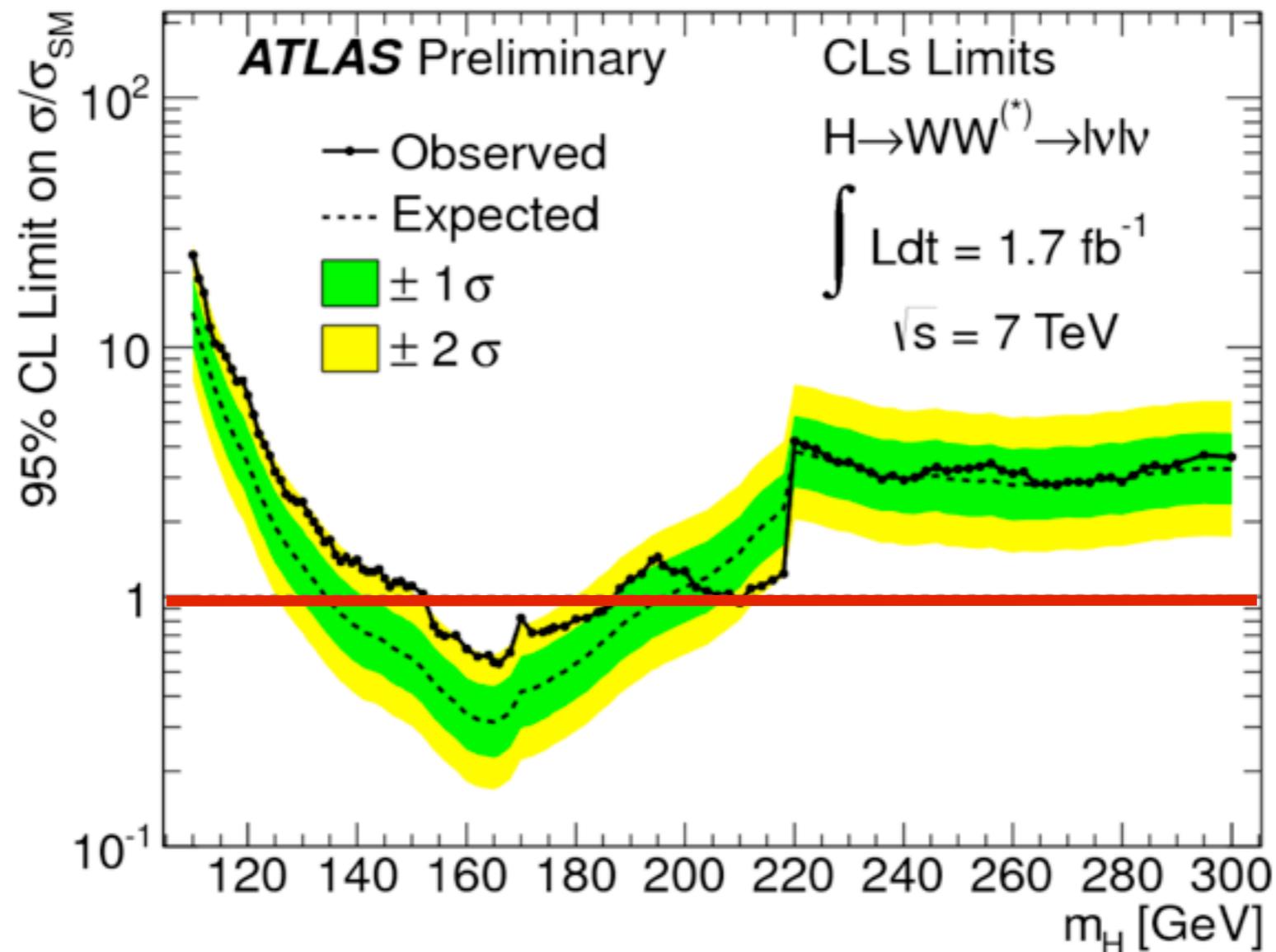
Lower sensitivity compared to  $0j$  but very close to the SM cross-section around  $m_H = 160$  GeV



# $H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow l\nu l\nu$ Exclusion Limit



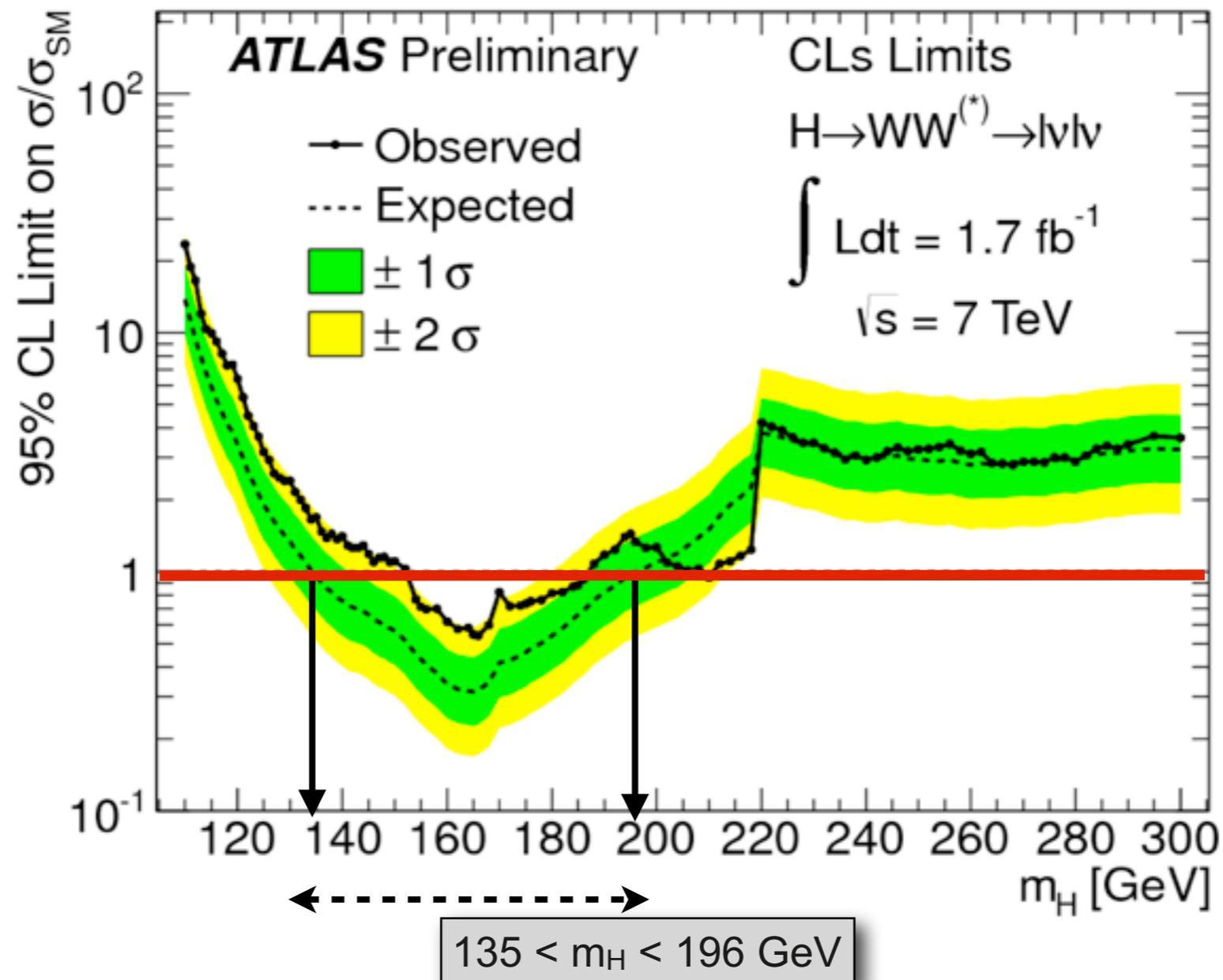
- A SM Higgs boson with  $154 < m_H < 186$  GeV is excluded at 95% CL by combining 0j and 1j
  - Expected exclusion range is  $135 < m_H < 196$  GeV
  - Observed limit is within  $2\sigma$  of the expected limit over the full range



# $H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow l\nu l\nu$ Exclusion Limit



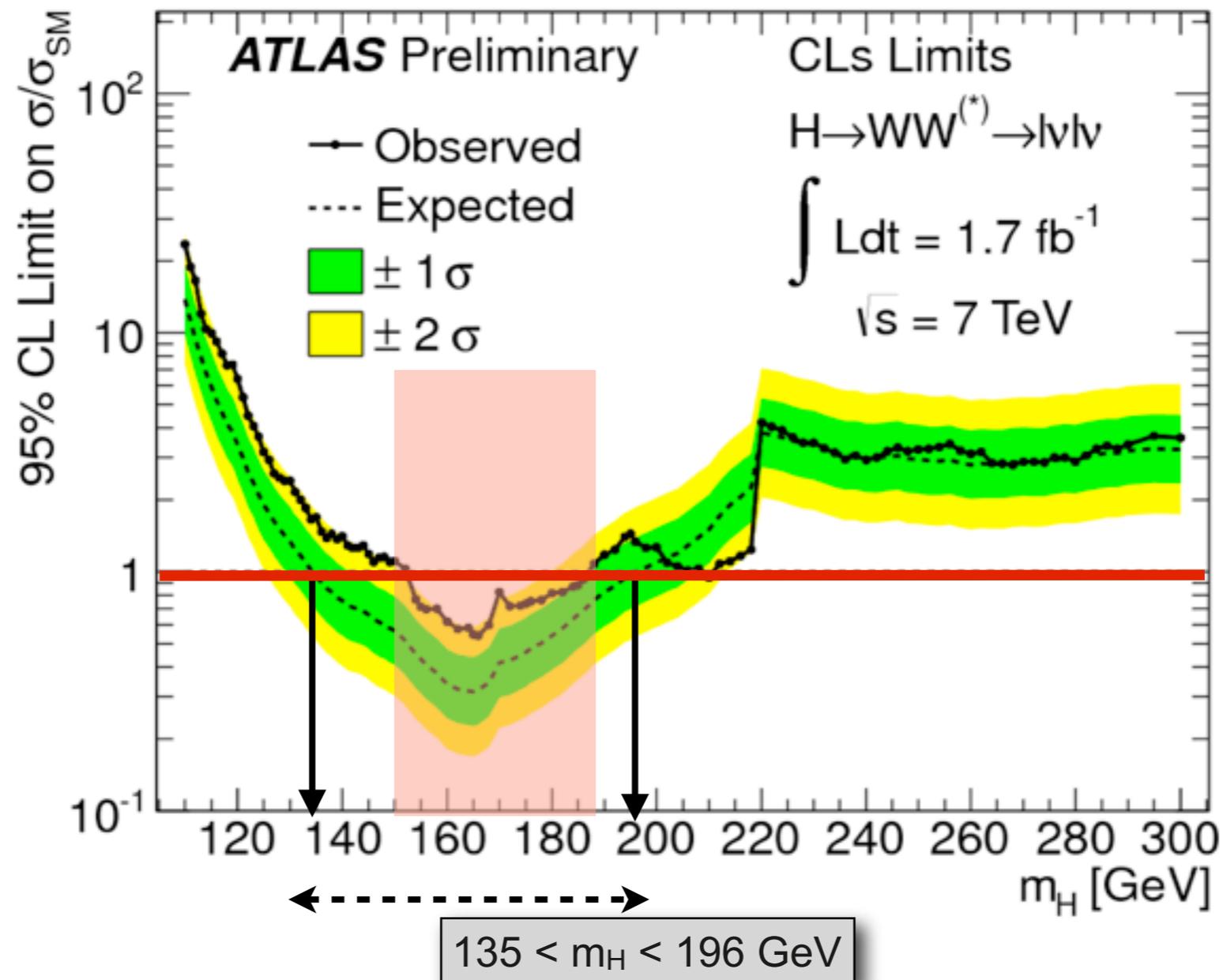
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# $H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow l\nu l\nu$ Exclusion Limit



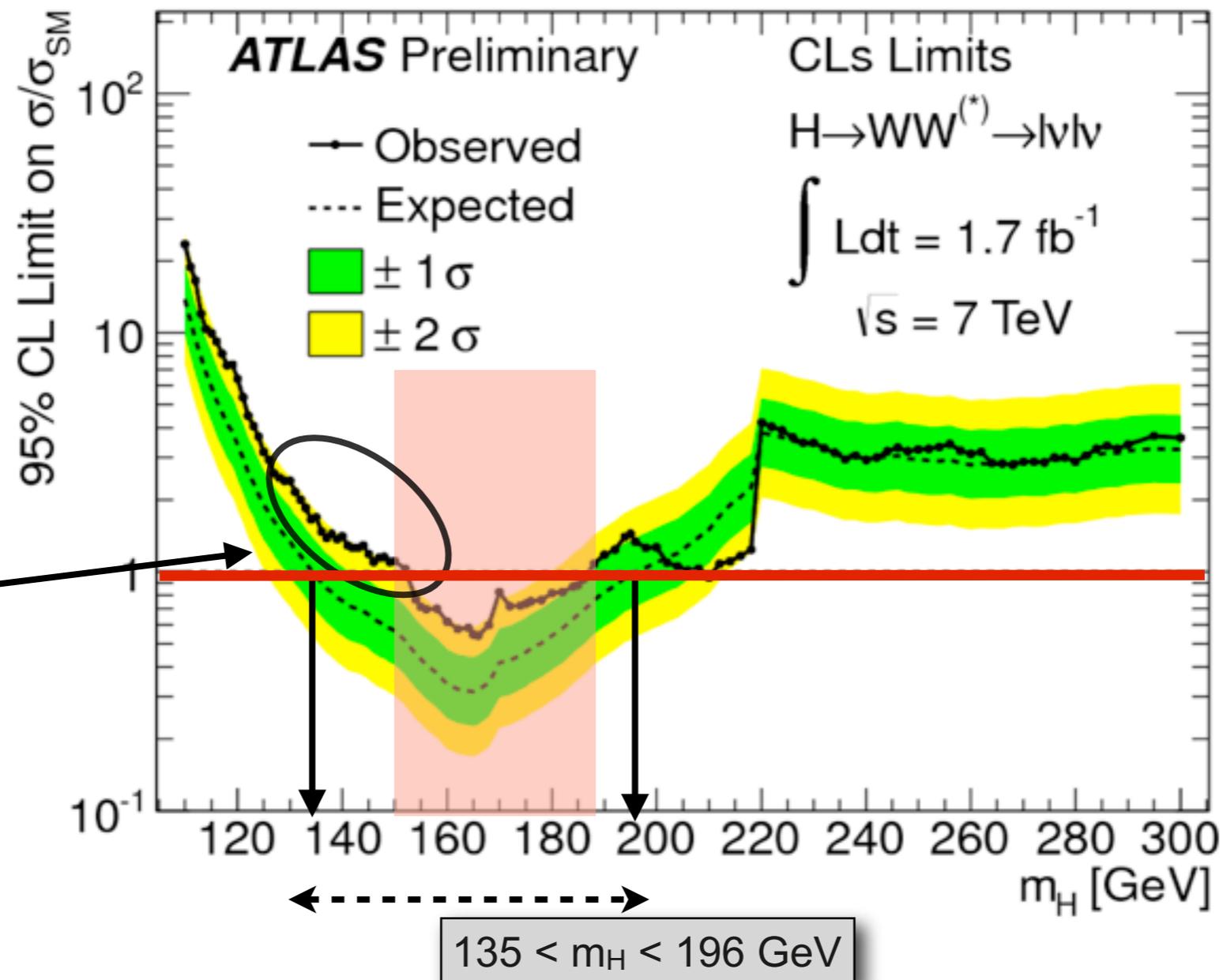
- A SM Higgs boson with  $154 < m_H < 186$  GeV is excluded at 95% CL by combining 0j and 1j
  - Expected exclusion range is  $135 < m_H < 196$  GeV
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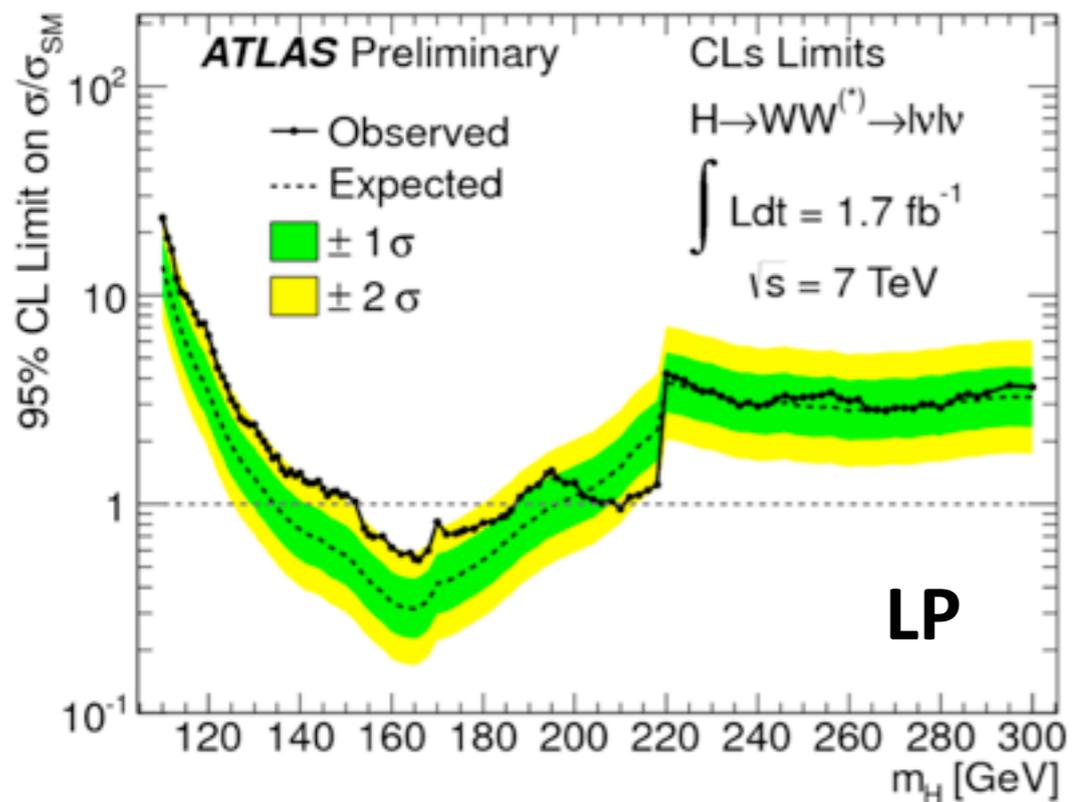
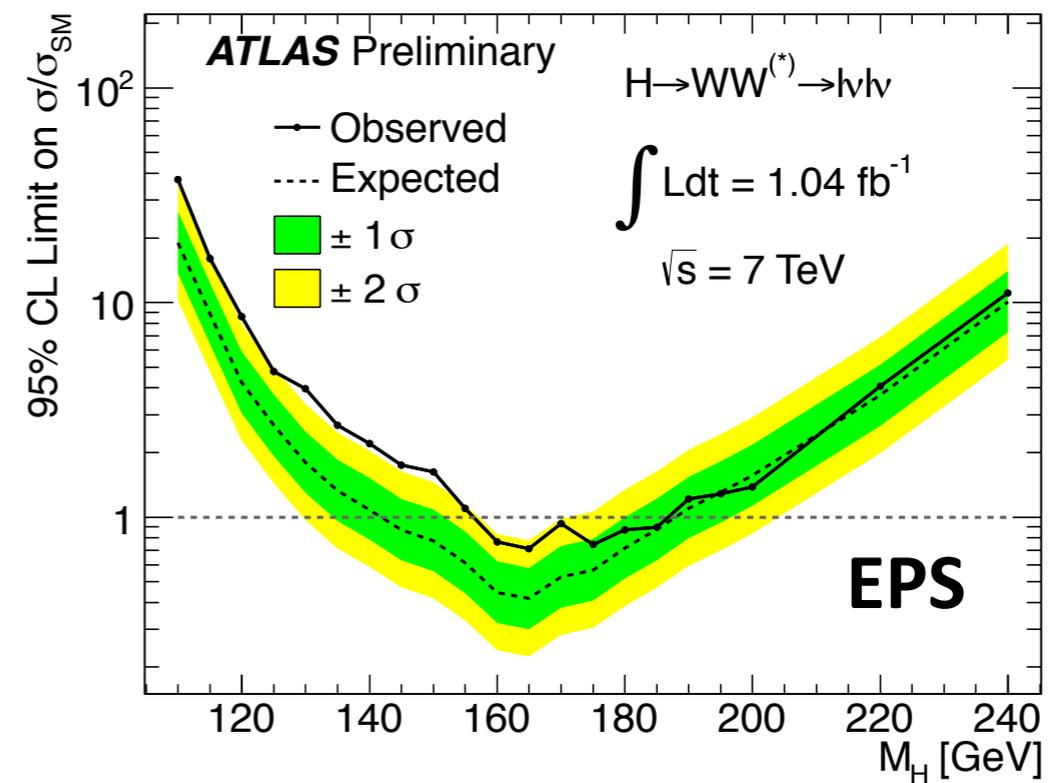
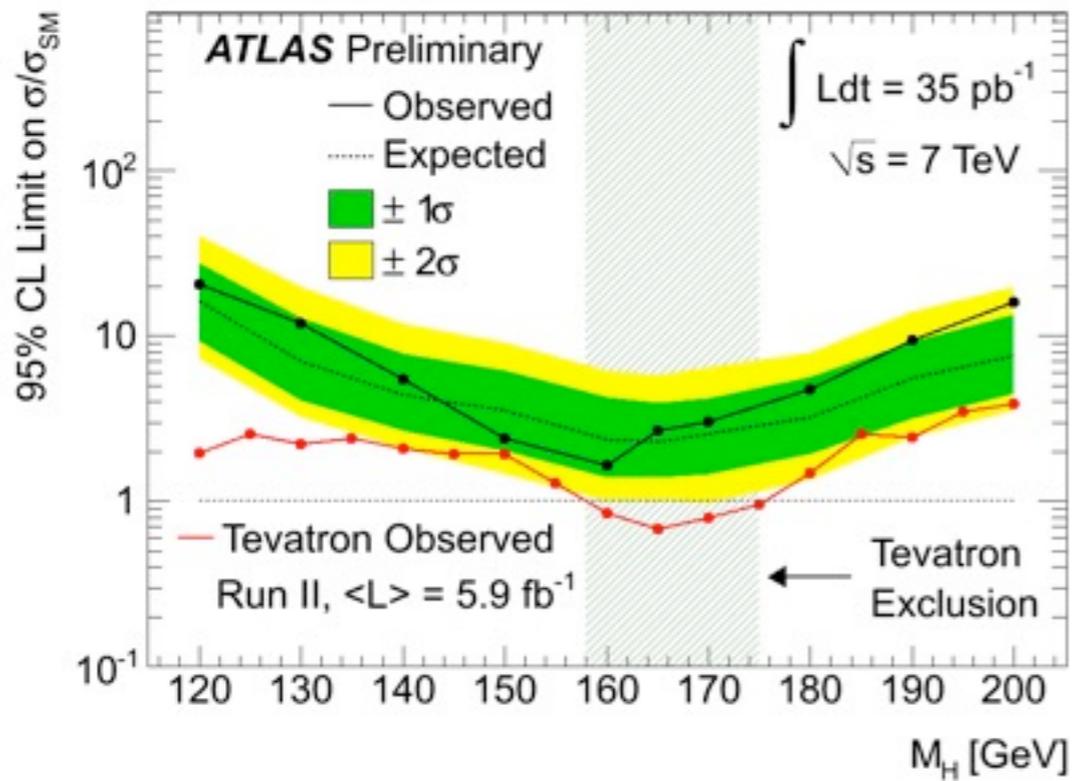
# $H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow l\nu l\nu$ Exclusion Limit



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# $H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow l\nu l\nu$ at ATLAS



Publication on 2/fb  
 in preparation

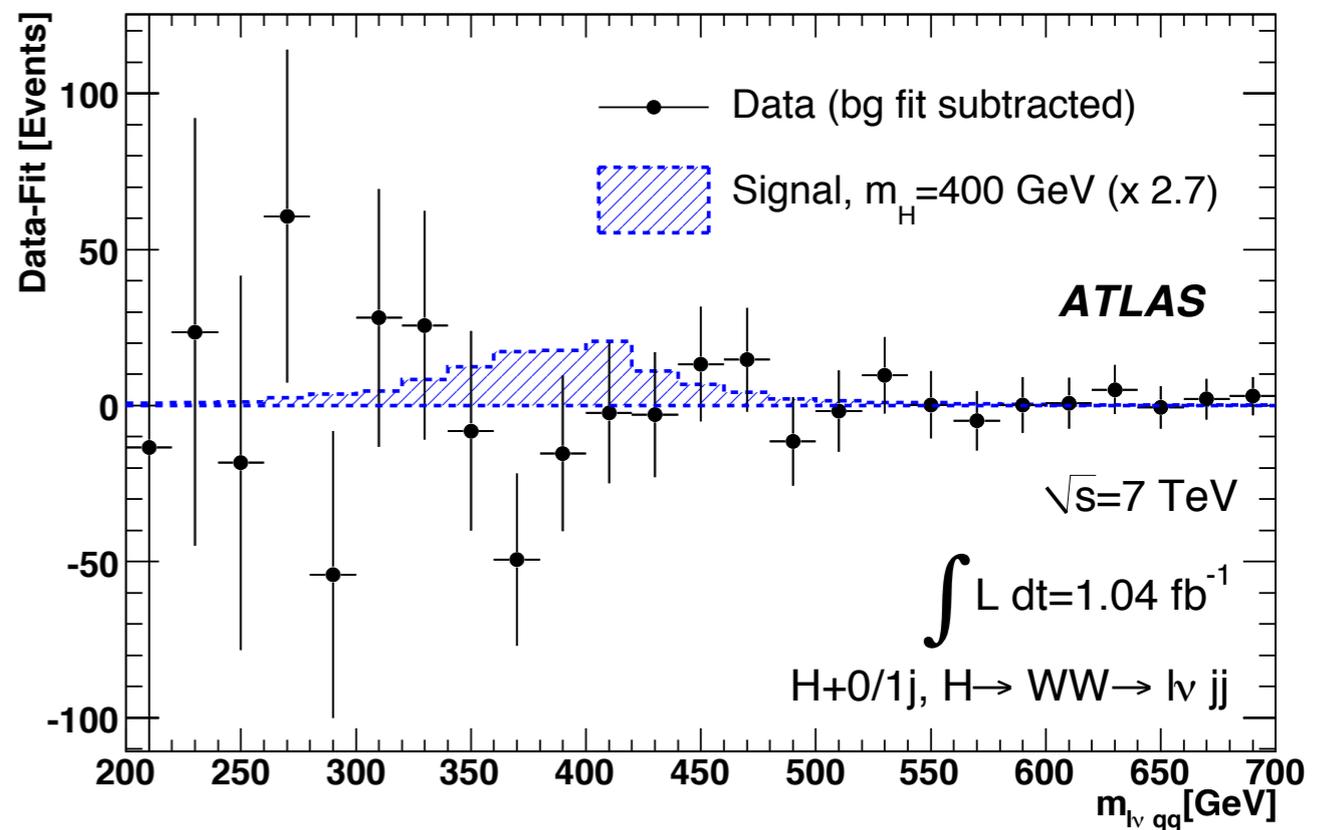
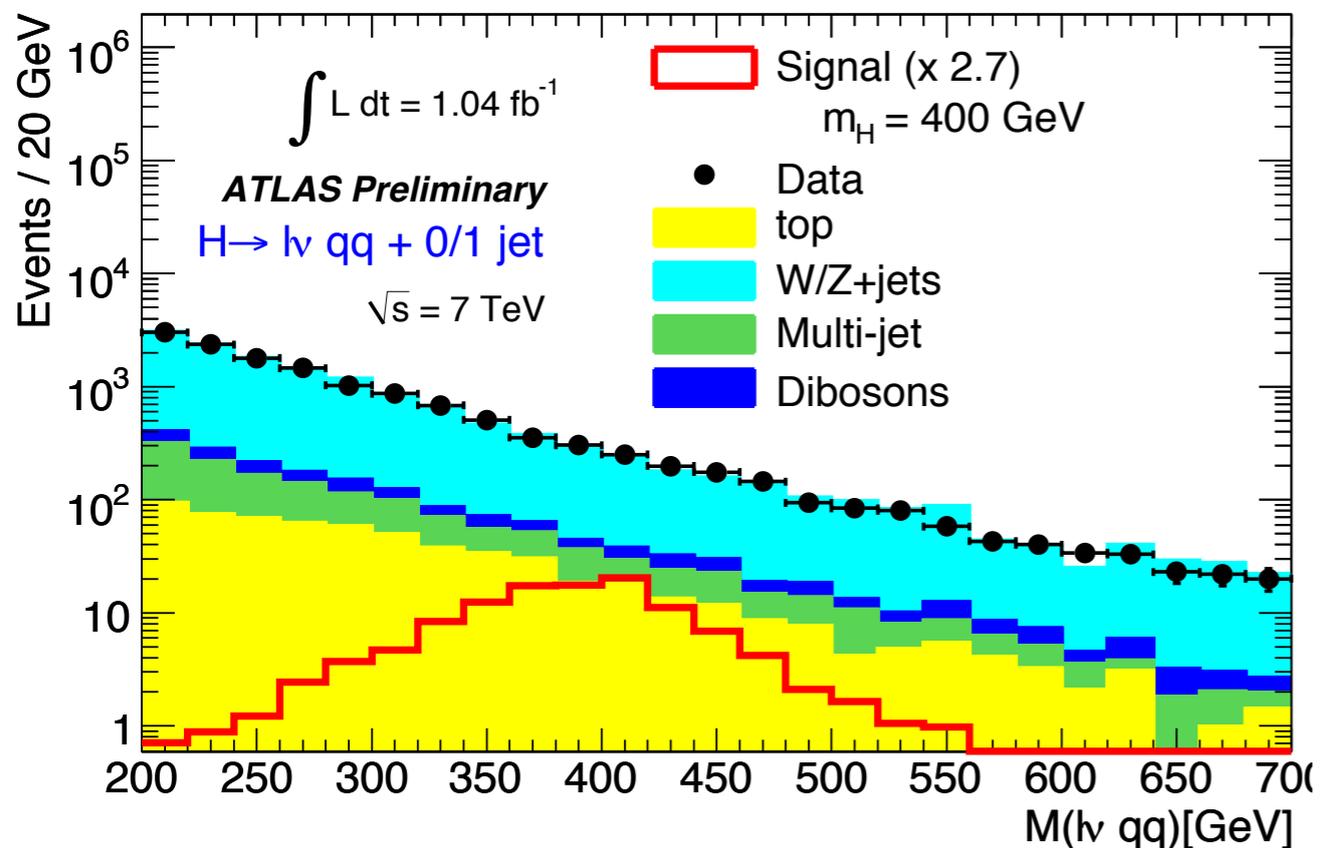
# The $H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow lvqq$ Analysis



- At larger Higgs mass, it becomes possible to separate the  $H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow lvqq$  decay from the large backgrounds
- Analysis is performed for  $240 \text{ GeV} < m_H < 600 \text{ GeV}$ 
  - Best sensitivity for  $m_H$  around 400 GeV
- Candidate events with one lepton, large missing  $E_T$  and jets
  - one lepton ( $e, \mu$ ) with  $p_T > 30 \text{ GeV}$
  - missing  $E_T > 30 \text{ GeV}$
  - Two jets with  $71 < M_{jj} < 91 \text{ GeV}$  (either 2 or 3 jets)
  - Veto events if any jet is b-tagged
- Reconstruct Higgs mass ( $M_{lvqq}$ ) by imposing  $M_{lv} = M_W$  and  $M_{qq} = M_W$
- Strategy is to search for a bump in the  $M_{lvqq}$  distribution above the strongly falling background

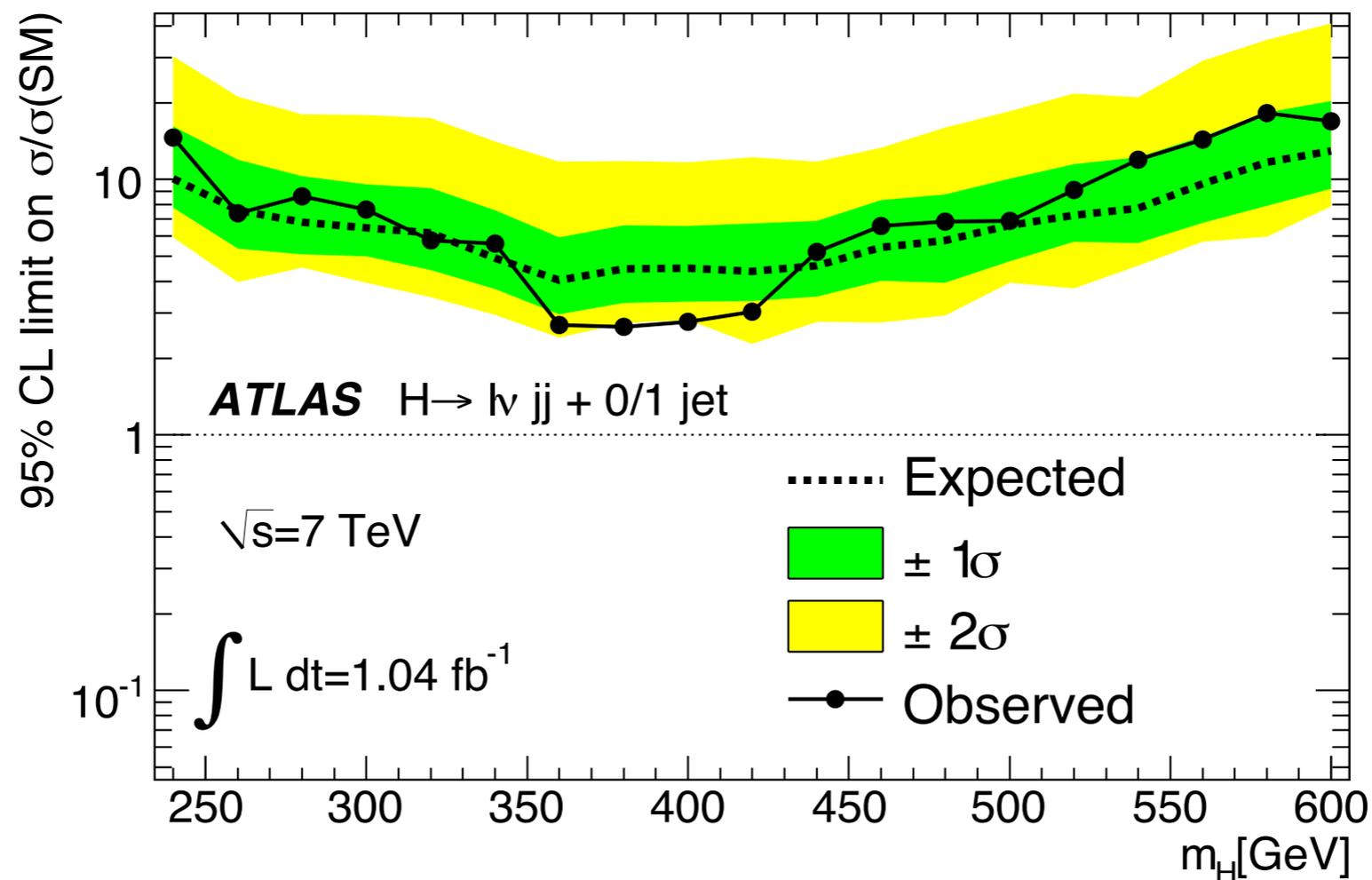
# Mass Distribution

	$H(e\nu jj) + 0j$	$H(\mu\nu jj) + 0j$	$H(e\nu jj) + 1j$	$H(\mu\nu jj) + 1j$	$H + 0j \text{ or } 1j$
$W/Z + \text{jets}$	$10780 \pm 290$	$13380 \pm 870$	$6510 \pm 250$	$7410 \pm 670$	$38080 \pm 1160$
Multi-jet	$890 \pm 24$	$256 \pm 17$	$669 \pm 25$	$212 \pm 19$	$2027 \pm 43$
Top	$170 \pm 34$	$164 \pm 33$	$489 \pm 98$	$500 \pm 100$	$1320 \pm 270$
Dibosons	$397 \pm 79$	$414 \pm 83$	$161 \pm 32$	$204 \pm 41$	$1180 \pm 240$
Expected Background	$12240 \pm 300$	$14210 \pm 870$	$7830 \pm 270$	$8330 \pm 680$	$42600 \pm 1200$
Data	11988	13906	7543	8250	41687
Expected Signal ( $m_H = 400 \text{ GeV}$ )	$14 \pm 3.6$	$12 \pm 3.1$	$18 \pm 4.7$	$14 \pm 3.6$	$58 \pm 15$



# Exclusion Limit

- Signal extracted using a maximum likelihood fit to the background modeled by the sum of two exponentials
- For  $350 < m_H < 420$  GeV, the 95% CL is  $\sim 2.7$  x SM cross-section
- Expected limit in this range is  $\sim 4$  x SM cross-section



# Conclusions



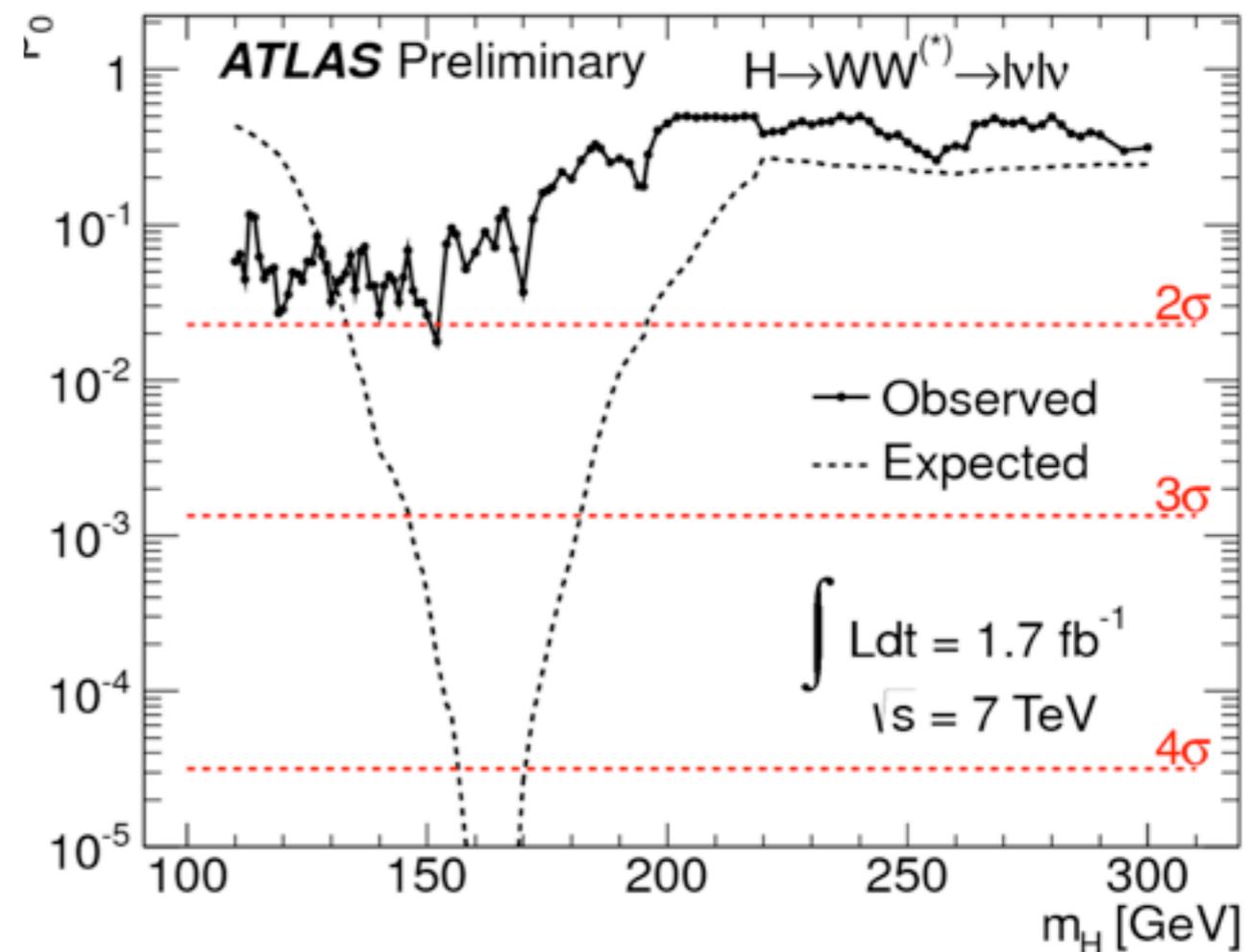
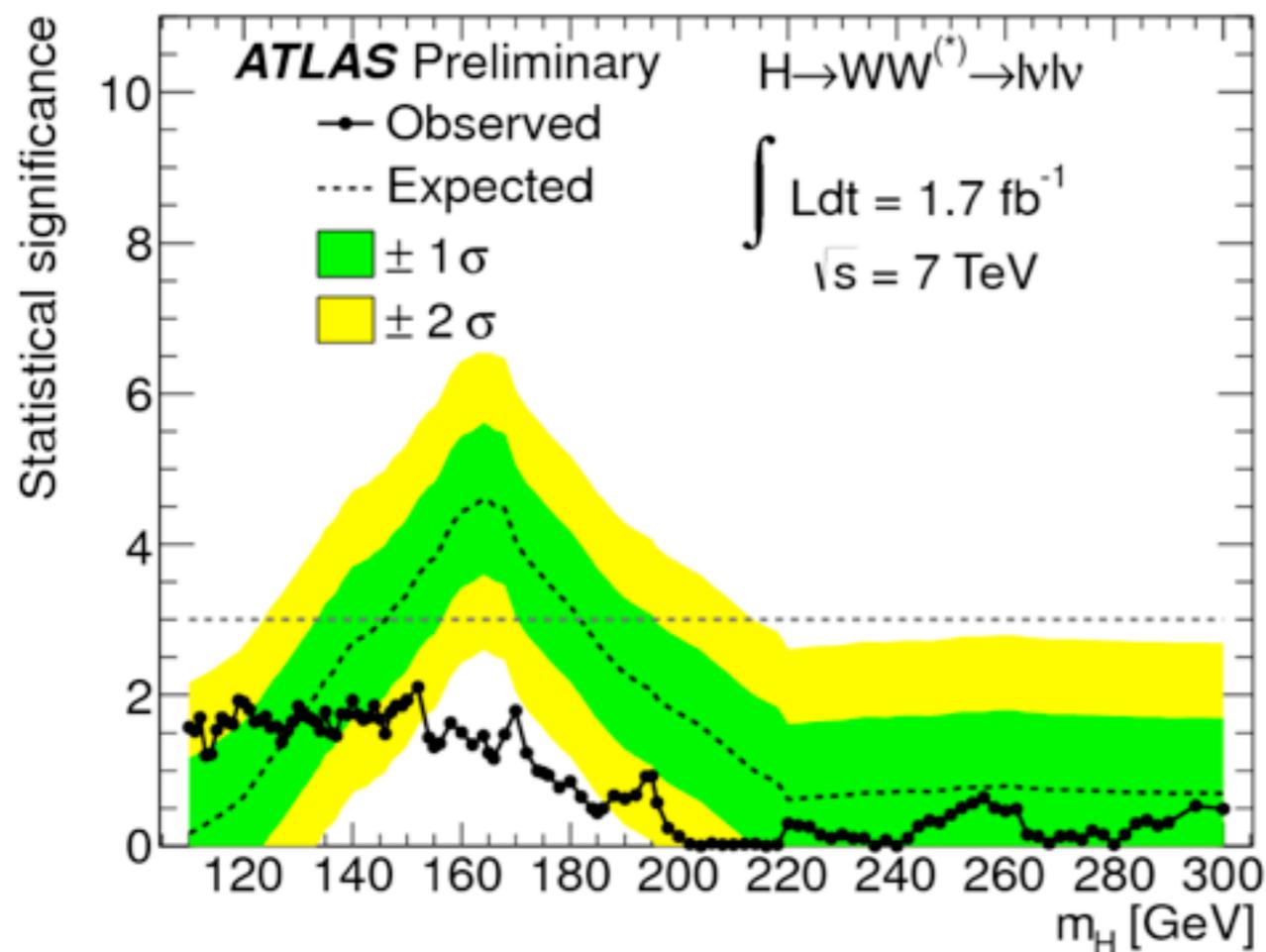
- Presented latest results from ATLAS in the  $H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow l\nu l\nu$  and  $H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow l\nu qq$  channels
  - No evidence for the Higgs boson
  - $H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow l\nu l\nu$  analysis excludes the SM Higgs for  $154 < m_H < 186$  GeV at 95% CL with 1.7/fb
  - $H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow l\nu qq$  channel obtains a limit of  $\sim 2.7\sigma$  SM with 1/fb
- A small deviation of  $\sim 2\sigma$  between the expected and observed limits is observed in the range  $110 < m_H < 150$  GeV in the  $H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow l\nu l\nu$  analysis
  - Neighboring mass points are highly correlated due to the mass resolution



# Bonus

# Significance and p-values

- Compare expected significance as a function of Higgs boson mass to measured significance
- $\sim 2\sigma$  excess for  $m_H < 150$  GeV (smaller than that observed with 1/fb)
- p-value is consistent with background only hypothesis within  $2\sigma$





# Data Driven Background Estimation

Backgrounds either partially or fully determined from data

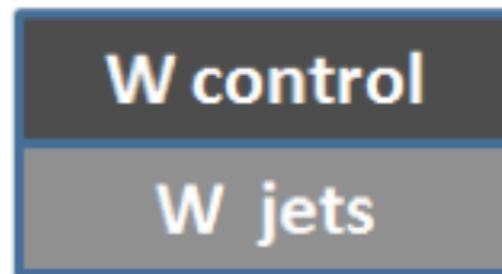
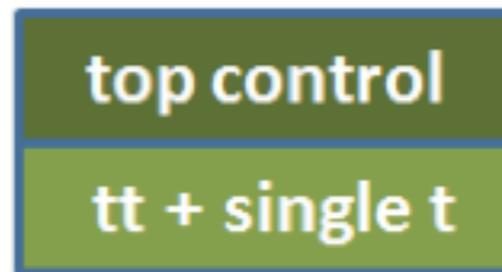
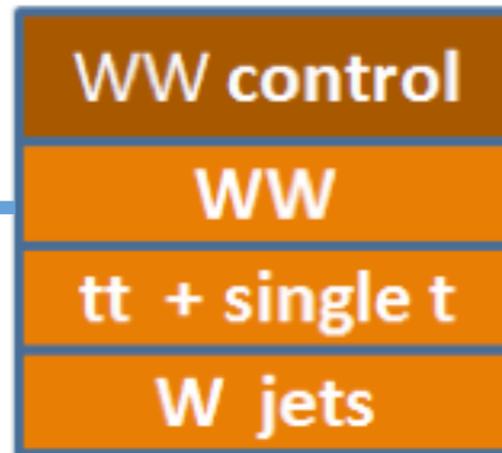
$$N_{S.R.} = \alpha \times N_{C.R.}$$



$$\alpha_{WW} = \frac{N_{WW}^{sig}}{N_{WW}^{ctrl(WW)}}$$

$$\alpha_{tt} = \frac{N_{top}^{sig}}{N_{top}^{ctrl(top)}}$$

$$\alpha_{Wj} = \frac{N_{dijet}^{SR}}{N_{dijet}^{CR}}$$



remove  $\Delta\phi$  and  $m_T$  cuts, invert  $m_{ll}$  cuts

$$\beta_{tt} = \frac{N_{top}^{ctrl(WW)}}{N_{top}^{ctrl(top)}}$$

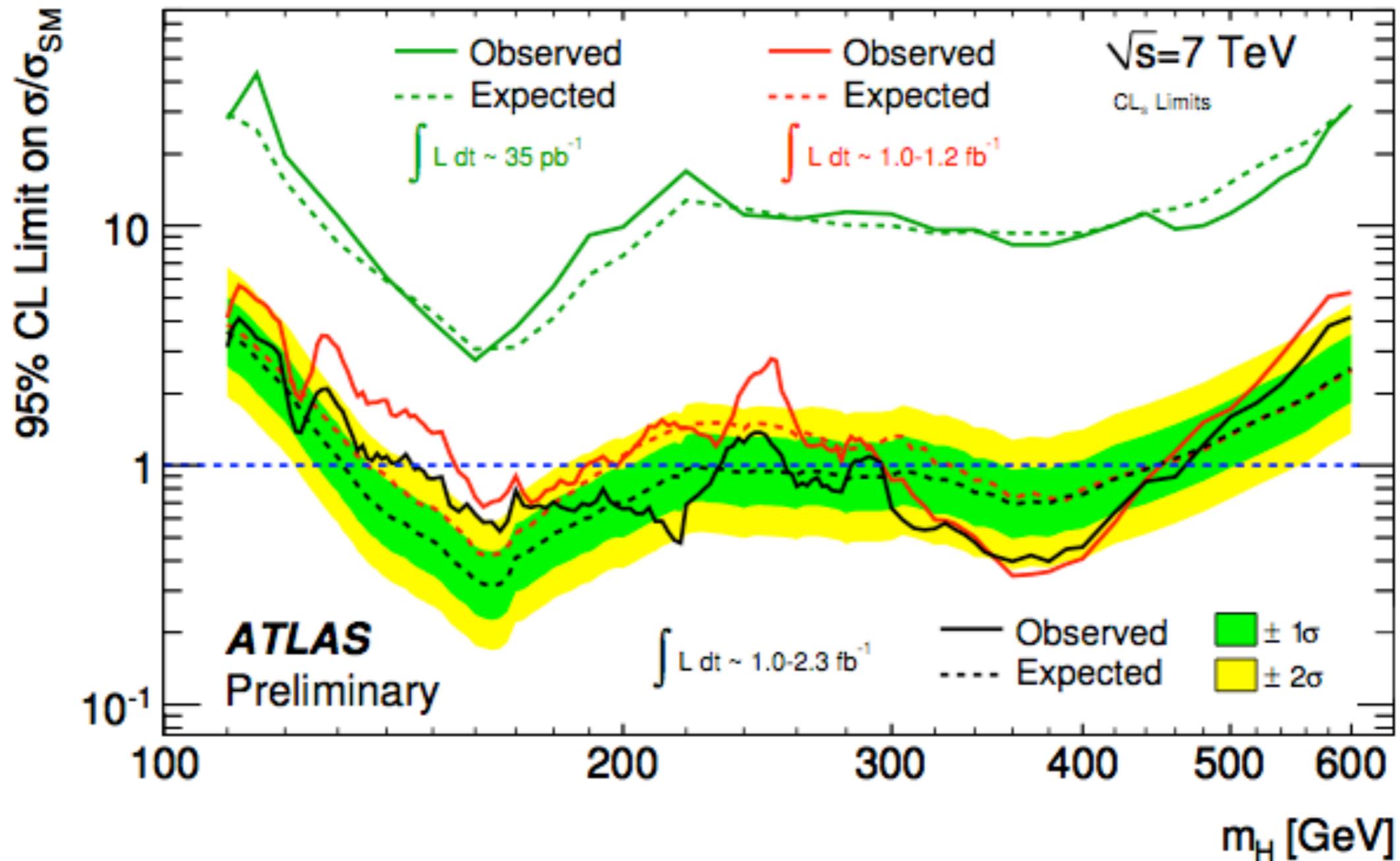
$$\beta_{Wj} = \frac{N_{Wj}^{ctrl(WW)}}{N_{Wj}^{ctrl(Wj)}}$$

1j: remove topological cuts, invert b-jet veto

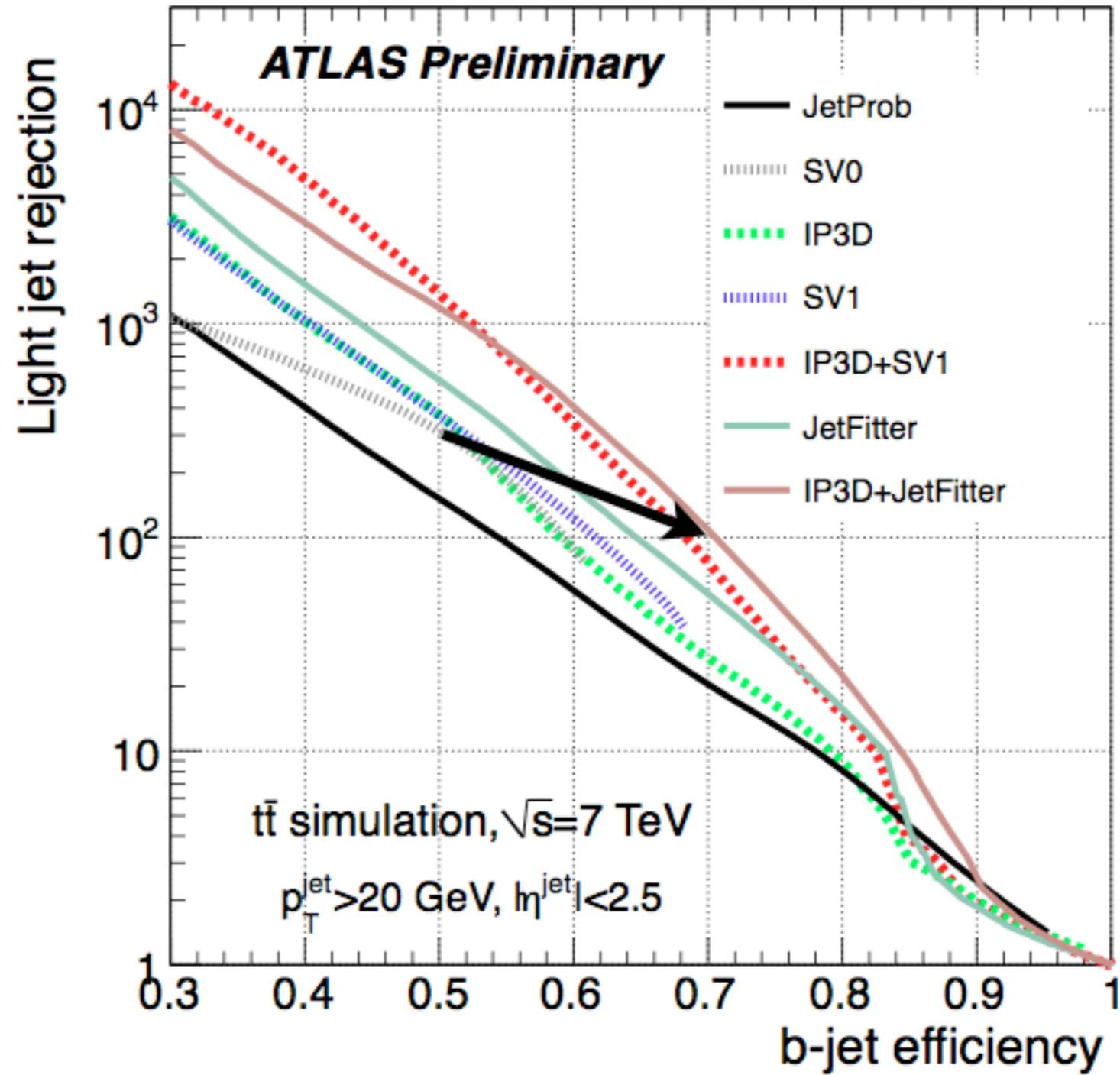
require 2nd lepton to fail tight selection, but pass loose selection

0j: estimate top background from b-jet survival probability

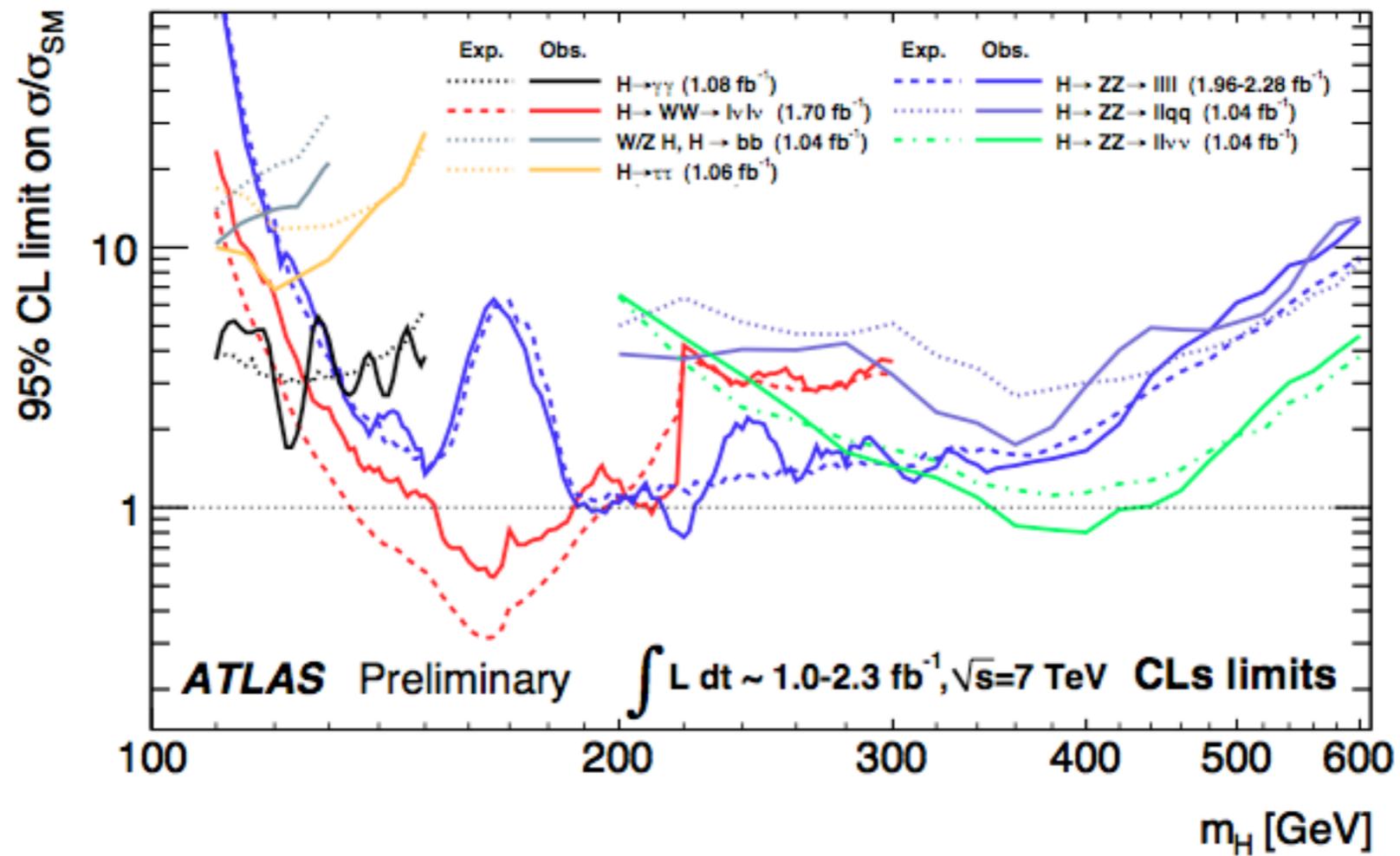
# ATLAS Higgs Combination



# B-tagging



# ATLAS Combination



# Systematic Uncertainties



Source of Uncertainty	Treatment in the analysis
Jet Energy Resolution (JER)	$\sim 14\%$ , see Ref. [69]
Jet Energy Scale (JES)	Takes into account close-by jets effect, jet flavor composition uncertainty and event pile-up uncertainty in addition to global JES uncertainty Global JES $< 10\%$ for $p_T > 15$ GeV and $ \eta  < 4.5$ , see Ref. [70] Pile-up uncertainty 2-5% for $ \eta  < 2.1$ and 3-7% for $2.1 <  \eta  < 4.5$ These are summed in quadrature before application.
Electron Selection Efficiency	Separate systematics for electron identification, reconstruction and isolation, added in quadrature Total uncertainty of 2-5% depending on $\eta$ and $E_T$
Electron Energy Scale	Uncertainty smaller than 1%, depending on $\eta$ and $E_T$
Electron Energy Resolution	Energy varied within its uncertainty, 0.6% of the energy at most
Muon Selection Efficiency	0.3-1% as a function of $\eta$ and $p_T$
Muon Momentum Scale	$\eta$ dependent scale offset in $p_T$ , up to $\sim 0.13\%$
Muon Momentum Resolution	$p_T$ and $\eta$ dependent resolution smearing functions, $\leq 5\%$
b-tagging Efficiency	$p_T$ dependent scale factor uncertainties, 5.6-15%, see Ref. [71]
b-tagging Mis-tag Rate	up to 21% as a function of $p_T$ , see Ref. [71]
Missing Transverse Energy	13.2% uncertainty on topological cluster energy Electron and muon $p_T$ changes from smearing propagated to MET Effect of out-of-time pileup: MET smeared by 5 GeV in 1/3 of MC events
Luminosity	3.7% [25]



	$\alpha_{WW}^{0j}$	$\alpha_{WW}^{1j}$	$\alpha_{top}^{1j}$	$\beta_{top}^{1j}$
$Q^2$ Scale	2.5%	4%	9%	–
MC Modeling	3.5%	3.5%	4%	–
PDF	3.8%	3.5%	3%	–
Jet $E$ Scale + Resolution	+0.5% -0.6%	+2.3% -1%	-35% +32%	-36% +32%
$b$ -tagging Efficiency	–	–	-23% +23%	-19% +20%
MC Statistics	4.3%	12.9%	6%	–

Process	jet bin	Scale	PDF	MC	Total
$WW$	0 jet	4%	3%	7%	9%
	1 jet	5%	3%	10%	12%
$t\bar{t}$	0 jet	9%	3%	8%	12%
	1 jet	4%	3%	8%	9%
$gg \rightarrow H$	0 jet	3%	3%	3%	5%
	1 jet	3%	3%	11%	12%

# $Z \rightarrow \tau\tau$ Rejection



- Reconstruction  $m_{\tau\tau}$  by assuming
- leptons arise from  $Z \rightarrow \tau\tau$  decays
- neutrinos are collinear with the leptons
- Reject the event when
  - the energy fractions of the visible decay products are positive
    - i.e.  $x_{T1} > 0$  and  $x_{T2} > 0$
  - and the invariant mass is consistent with the  $Z$ 
    - i.e.  $|m_{\tau\tau} - M_Z| < 25 \text{ GeV}$
- Only applied in  $H + 1j$ , because in  $H+0j$  the leptons are more often back-to-back